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SOKOLOV ANSWERS QUESTIONS ON SDI, ARMS PARITY

LD042103 Moscow TASS in English 2044 GMT 4 May 85

["Answers of the Minister of Defense of the USSR, Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Sokolov, to Questions of a TASS correspondent" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow May 5 TASS -- Follow answers of the Minister of Defense of the USSR, Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Sokolov, to questions of a TASS correspondent:

Question, Comrade Defense Minister, how do you assess statements of U.S. leaders to the effect that they allegedly come out in favor of 'ensuring security on the basis of strategic defensive systems' while the Soviet Union, they say, conducts a race in strategic offensive arms?

Answer. It is the United States that has always been the initiator of the arms race. For forty years after the Second World War it has been trying to achieve military superiority. However, the Soviet Union has thwarted these attempts in time by effective reply measures.

The existing military-strategic balance between the USSR and the USA, between the Warsaw Treaty and NATO is a historic achievement of the socialist community, an indispensable prerequisite of its security. It objectively exists today, and no one will be able to disprove this fact, if one does not engage in deception. The existence of the balance deters imperial ambitions of the USA, and prevents it from achieving world dominance. This is precisely why Washington leaders are trying to upset the parity, to acquire a military edge over the USSR and its allies. In these conditions their statements concerning some kind of transition in military construction matters to orientation toward defensive systems sound strange, to put it mildly. Facts prove that the present administration thinks of anything but "defense". On the contrary, it banks on acquiring a capability of the first disarming nuclear strike.

For that purpose efforts are under way to improve the accuracy of U.S. nuclear systems capable of hitting our retaliatory strike forces, primarily intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) silo launchers. Conditions are being created for a sudden nuclear attack with the help of Pershing-2 missiles being sited in Western European countries and big-range cruise missiles of different basing modes, being deployed near the territory of the USSR. Different means are being used to camouflage U.S. missiles and bombers in flight to limit to the maximum the possibility of their detection.

The Pentagon is developing at accelerated pace new strategic offensive systems -- two types of ICBM's, submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBM), and two types of heavy bombers. Secretary of Defense C. Weinberger does not bother to conceal that, while developing a space anti-ballistic missile system, the United States will also have a 'powerful strategic triad' for dealing a devastative nuclear strike that threatens the existence of the Soviet Union. Evidently, the case in point is not orientation toward defensive systems but a relentless buildup of U.S. strategic offensive potential.

Now the Pentagon is longing to get into space. What for? But again, to try and achieve military superiority over the USSR, this time through space. The so-called "Strategic Defense Initiative" of President R. Reagan is called "defensive" only for coverup purposes, but actually it is aimed at the development of a new class of weapons -- strike space systems.

Trying to place strike weapons in space, U.S. figures, in contradiction to facts, maintain that militarization of outer space allegedly has begun with the appearance of satellites for different military uses and that the USSR has allegedly been engaged in an arms race in space since that time. This is not true. Communication, navigation, missile attack warning and other satellites which both sides have are not strike space weapons. Neither the USSR nor the United States has weapons in space at the present time.

Space militarization, that is a danger to mankind, will begin when strike systems designed to hit objects in space or from space are placed there. It is then that a race in space arms will unfold. And the U.S.A. is working towards exactly that.

The Soviet Union is resolutely opposed to the arms race on earth and to its spreading to outer space. That is why it proposes the only natural and sensible thing: to freeze nuclear arsenals of the sides, to terminate preparations for the production of weapons for deployment in space, and on that basis, to pass right away to the reduction of the existing arms stockpiles. To prove its sincerity and goodwill more convincingly the USSR has announced that it discontinues unilaterally as from April 7 and till November 1985 further deployment of its intermediate-range missiles and suspends implementation of other counter measures in Europe.

This decision reaffirms the striving of our country to do everything necessary to curb the arms race. The road from moratorium toward reduction is open. But the United States, as is known, rejected the Soviet initiative out of hand, thus calling into question the sincerity of its statements concerning readiness to reach agreement concerning nuclear arms reduction.

Now Washington officials are making irresponsible pronouncements to the effect that the moratorium announced by the USSR is allegedly not being observed. Let me put it straight: This is deliberate and malicious disinformation. The USSR sticks by its words. It is not and will not be adding a single missile or a single plane to its intermediate-range forces in the European part of the country for the duration of the moratorium.

Question. The U.S. Administration maintains that the acceptance of the Soviet proposal for a moratorium would allegedly "solidify superiority of the USSR" in the field of strategic offensive weapons and intermediate-range nuclear systems. Does such superiority really exist today?

Answer. There is no "nuclear superiority of the USSR" in either strategic offensive weapons or intermediate-range nuclear systems. There exists an approximate balance in such systems. Washington resorts to the distortion of facts in order to justify its unprecedented military programs and arms buildup, to conceal its reluctance to reach agreement in Geneva on non-militarization of space and a radical reduction of nuclear weapons.

The balance between the USSR and the USA in the field of strategic arms been thoroughly verified and recognized by the sides when SALT-1 and SALT-2 agreements were being negotiated. At the present time the USSR has a bit more delivery vehicles, while the USA has an edge in the number of warheads. But in general there exists the approximate equality.

The approximate parity is confirmed by the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the U.S. Armed Forces. Their report to the Congress (1985) says that at this period approximate nuclear parity exists between the United States and the Soviet Union. According to official data of the Washington Administration itself, the USSR and the USA have approximately equal number of warheads on land and sea-based ballistic missiles.

But the USA has many more heavy bombers than the USSR and, correspondingly, more nuclear weapons on them. So, if there exists an imbalance in the field of nuclear warheads on strategic delivery vehicles it is in favor of the USA.

In intermediate-range nuclear forces NATO countries now have an edge both in delivery vehicles (missiles and planes) and in the number of warheads lifted by these vehicles in one launching (the USSR has 850 delivery vehicles and about 2,000 warheads, and NATO -- 990 delivery vehicles and more than 3,000 warheads).

How is the real state of affairs being distorted in Washington? No account is made of British and French missiles and medium-range planes and aircraft carrier-based aviation of the USA (in total about 550 delivery vehicles [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian at 2047 GMT states: 450 delivery vehicles] and almost 1,500 nuclear warheads). All of Soviet Union's systems are taken into account, even those that are deployed in the east of the country and have no relation to the balance of forces in Europe.

Such are the facts concerning nuclear parity. Under such conditions the introduction of a moratorium on the nuclear arsenals of the sides and on the development, including research, of strike space weapons is a timely, effective and right measure from the point of view of curbing the arms race. It agrees with the spirit of the accord reached in January. Such a step would make it possible to prevent the situation from deteriorating and embark on resolution of questions of reducing nuclear arms.

Question. Washington leaders describe plans for the development of a space anti-ballistic missile system as "humane", allege that it will make ballistic missiles "unnecessary" and deliver mankind from nuclear weapons. What is the true substance of the U.S. "star wars" plan?

Answer. The USA has put into circulation assertions concerning "humaneness" of space plans for misleading the public, distracting its attention from the danger which these plans pose to mankind.

What are they in Washington really up to? They seek to create an anti-missile shield over the United States, to simultaneously deploy strategic first-strike offensive armaments, new strategic space-based forces intended to hit targets on earth, in the sea, in the atmosphere and in outer space. It is not difficult to see that if such plans of the United States are materialised, then Washington's strategists may have the temptation, under the cover of the space anti-missile shield, to risk the use of nuclear and space weapons for dealing a strike on the Soviet Union and its allies, counting to go off with impunity. According to the Pentagon's designs, the anti-missile shield is called upon to frustrate the retaliatory strike from the USSR, to "finish off", so to speak, the Soviet missiles which survived the American first nuclear strike.

Pronouncements of the U.S. Administration as to "deliverance of mankind from nuclear weapons" are in this connection outright demagogy. If, as the U.S. Administration assures, "star wars" is the way to destruction of nuclear weapons, why then is the United States building up in huge proportions strategic offensive armaments, creating other ever newer nuclear systems, is deploying in Europe "Pershing" and cruise missiles, is leading the production of 17,000 new nuclear ammunition? Common sense prompts the need of freezing nuclear arsenals of the sides and to come over to reductions. This is exactly what the Soviet Union proposes.

In Washington they act differently. They say there: It is now necessary to continue deploying strategic nuclear armaments, besides, it is necessary to militarise outer space, to create a space anti-missile system, that is strike offensive space armaments. And only then, when all that has been done, "possibly in many decades" it might become possible, as they say, to reduce or even eliminate nuclear armaments.

It turns out that to liquidate nuclear weapons it is first necessary to multiply many times their stocks. The way to nuclear disarmament, if one follows that logic, comes only through the buildup of strategic offensive armaments and militarisation of outer space, and, besides, it will take scores of years. There, it looks, could be no other way out.

Why is this being done? To deceive people, to divert their attention from the need of undelayed and efficient steps to reduce nuclear arsenals. The dangerous consequences of such a course are thoroughly hidden from the public, they conceal the objectively existing mutual link between the offensive and defensive armaments which underlies the termless Soviet-American Treaty on Limitation of ABM Systems, dated 1972.

Nothing is said that creation of one of the aspects of the large-scale anti-missile system breaks this mutual link, destablises the strategic situation, impels the other side to restore the situation either by the buildup of its strategic offensive armaments, or by supplementing them with anti-missile systems, or, most likely, both.

In other words, the truth is that the outer space anti-missile system, being created by the United States, programs the arms race in all its directions and leads to undermining the international security. That conclusion was clearly formulated by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev in his conversation with the PRAVDA editor. "Just as the appearance of nuclear arms did not eliminate conventional types of weapons, and only generated an accelerated race in the manufacture of both nuclear and conventional arms, the creation of space arms will have only one result -- the arms race will become even more intensive and encompass new spheres."

From the military viewpoint the American "star wars" plan is the inseparable component part of the U.S. nuclear strategy, the first strike strategy. The real meaning of that plan is to get a possibility of a nuclear attack with impunity, to ensure conditions for constant nuclear blackmail of the Soviet Union and other countries. Since the United Stated categorically refuses to undertake the obligation not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, such intentions of the United States are a real threat to peace.

Question. The U.S. Government assures that the "star wars" program is nothing but scientific research which is not prohibited by the 1972 Treaty on Limitation of ABM Systems and that allegedly similar research is conducted by the Soviet Union. What can be said to that effect?

Answer. The assurances of the White House that things so far go no farther but harmless research might only mislead one. The atomic bomb was also the result of research in the "Manhattan" program. It is known what that brought for the population of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Since that time the whole world has lived in conditions of a nuclear threat. The "star wars" program carries a still greater danger to mankind. It is necessary to prohibit it, and scientific research work as well.

Washington's excuses that allegedly "research" is allowed by the 1972 treaty are unconvincing. Article Five of the treaty prohibits creation, tests and deployment of space-based ABM systems and components. The so-called "research" which is under way in the United States to create an anti-missile defence system with space-based elements already now goes beyond the limits of scientific research. Certain experimental specimens of strike space weapons -- lasers of different types, electromagnetic guns, interceptor missiles, anti-sputnik systems are being tested. All these are components of the anti-missile space defence system, bricks of the final system, as the President's adviser George Keyworth said. Research work to create these "bricks" runs counter to the 1972 treaty. This work should be ended and prohibited.

The assurances of the White House that after the end of the research work the USA might allegedly give up deployment of a broad-scale space-missile defence system are not serious. It is even difficult to imagine that 60,000 million dollars -- these expenditures are planned for research work during ten years -- are needed to resolve the theoretical question -- whether creation of strike space armaments is possible or not. In an interview to the CBS on January 13 this year Caspar Weinberger overtly said that he ruled out the possibility of giving up strategic defence both in the research stage and in the deployment stage. Commentaries are not needed here.

Now about the Soviet Union's outer space research. We conduct scientific research work, including in the military sphere. But this work is not aimed at creating strike space weaponry, but is linked with perfection of space early warning, reconnaissance, communication, navigation systems. We are not creating strike space weapons and anti-missile defence of the territory of the country. The USSR firmly abides by the termless 1972 treaty.

Question. American plans of creation of a space anti-missile system, as you explained, are intended for hitting a nuclear strike with impunity on the Soviet Union. Of what character could the USSR's retaliatory measures be?

Answer. If the United States starts militarisation of outer space and thereby undermining the existing military-strategic equilibrium, the Soviet Union will have no other choice but to reply measures to restore the position.

These could be measures both in the sphere of defensive and offensive armaments. It goes without saying that the USSR will choose methods of action, that would be most up to the interests of its defensive capacity, but not those that Washington leaders would like to incline it to. I deem it necessary to emphasize with utmost certainty -- our measures will be adequate to the threat that might be created to the Soviet Union and its allies.

The U.S. course of militarization of outer space will extremely negatively influence the military-political situation in the world, complicate, if not make impossible, solution of the problem of reduction of nuclear armaments. Creation of strike space weapons will bring about, and is sure to bring about, the lessening of security of the United States itself and its allies. Such an outcome should not be forgotten by the initiators of "star wars" and those who are being inclined to complicity in that provocative program.

The Soviet Union -- and this was repeatedly stated in our country at the highest level -- does not seek to attain any unilateral advantages over the United States and NATO countries. We do not need that, since we do not intend to threaten them, to impose our will, but we want to live with them in peace, to maintain normal, good relations. Our aim is an end to the arms race, full destruction of nuclear weapons everywhere.

We want the United States to understand the Soviet stand at the Geneva negotiations and answer with reciprocity. The United States should give up attempts to impose upon the Soviet Union an agreement, unacceptable ot it, an agreement that would open the door wide for realisation of Washington-planned military programs. "We offer the Government of the United States," said General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev, go conduct the matter in such a way it would be seen to all, to our peoples, to other countries that the political courses of the USSR and the United States are oriented not at hostility and confrontation, but at the search of mutual understanding and peaceful development."

WARSAW PACT EXTENSION SUBMITTED TO COMMISSIONS

LD041903 Moscow TASS in English 1825 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 4 TASS -- The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has passed on for conclusion of the Foreign Relations Commissions of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet the protocol, submitted by the USSR Council of Ministers for ratification, on prolongation of the term of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Hungarian People's Republic, the German Democratic Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Socialist Republic of Romania, the Soviet Union and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic dated May 14, 1955, which was signed in Warsaw on April 26, 1985.

JOINT MILITARY EXERCISE SET FOR 25-31 MAY IN CSSR

LD031637 Moscow TASS in English 1602 GMT 3 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 3 TASS -- A joint exercise of the central body of troops and of the Czechoslovak People's Army is to be held in the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in the area of Usti, Karlovy Vary, Rakovnik, Mlada Boleslav, and Liberec in the period of May 25 to 31.

The exercise, which will be held with a view to practicing coordination between various arms of the service, will involve units of land forces and of the Air Force at an aggregate strength of about 25,000.

VILNIUS CEMA SESSION DISCUSSES LIGHT INDUSTRY

LD021032 Vilnius in English to North America 2200 GMT 29 May 85

[Text] A session of the CEMA member-states has been held here in Vilnius. Its participants -- representatives of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, the Soviet Union, Hungary and the GDR -- discussed possibilities to expand economic integration in reconstructing and technically reequipping the enterprises of light industry.

Of late, great attention has been devoted to the consolidation of direct links between the enterprises of socialist countries. This opens up broad prospectives with joint efforts of the socialist countries to perfect production with lesser expenditure and increase its effectiveness.

The cooperation of the Lithuanian light industry enterprises with their counterparts in the Erfurt area of the GDR and in the Hajdu-Bihar area in Hungary gives great effect to the expansion of the production of consumer goods and the improvement of their quality.

CPSU'S ZAGLADIN VIEWS DIFFERENCES AT BONN SUMMIT

LD041215 Paris Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Moscow is following what is happening among the Western capitalists in Bonn with keen interest. Vadim Zagladin, the Soviet Communist Party man in charge of foreign policy, in an exclusive interview with Jean-Pierre Quittard, went as far as to say that the difference of opinions in Bonn did not surprise him:

[Begin Zagladin recording in French] We are observers, very interested ones, certainly. We think that this difference was quite foreseeable and, if you will, a natural one because Europe as such, the European countries, and in particular, those of the WEU, have their own economic and political interests, which sometimes do not correspond with those of the United States. This is normal, but one has to find a way of expressing these interests. Sometimes the United States expresses its interests in a manner that offends Europe, and this necessarily creates difficulties. However, in order to assess better, to assess this meeting correctly, we must wait for it to end. [end recording]

U.S. Fails To Achieve Aims

LD042255 Moscow TASS in English 2242 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Bonn May 4 TASS -- TASS correspondents Vladimir Serov and Vladimir Sosnovskiy report:

A conference of leaders of seven leading capitalist states -- USA, FRG, Britain, France, Italy, Japan and Canada has ended here in an atmosphere of acute contradictions on the most important questions of international politics. During three days Washington leaders exerted massive pressure on allies, seeking from them unconditional support for their course of speeded up arms race and confrontation with the socialist world. But they failed to attain that in full.

Though in the political declaration of the Bonn conference support is expressed for that dangerous course, it is not accidental that in it there is no mention of the attitude of other members of the "Club of Seven" to Reagan's so-called "Strategic Defence Initiative" which is aimed at realisation of star wars programs. As was stressed by President of France Francois Mitterrand at a press conference that was held upon completion of the conference, his country does not intend to participate in the American project of militarisation of outer space. The Washington-announced sanctions against Nicaragua did not meet support also from other participants in the meeting.

Differences between the participants in the conference of "Seven" were also manifest in the discussion of trade-and-economic and monetary-and-financial problems. These contradictions were not shaded in the concluding communique which was read out today by the FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl in the Bundestag. In the communique there are many general phrases of allegiance of seven countries to "free trade principles", their determination to fight protectionism, inflation and unemployment, to ensure "stability of the monetary system" of the West. But the Washington leaders, who were actively assisted by Bonn, failed to get France's consent to opening early next year a regular round of negotiations within the framework of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade which, according to the REUTER news agency, was one of the main aims of the U.S. President.

Insisting that American commodities should have a broader access to West European and Japanese markets in order to reduce the U.S. trade deficit, Washington meanwhile increasingly restricts U.S. import of products of its partners.

Though in the concluding communique the American delegation did promise to take steps to reduce the deficit of the U.S. budget, it again turned down proposals, that were put forward by France at the previous conferences of the "Seven", on restructuring the Western monetary system, based on domination of the American dollar. Deliberately overstating banking rates and the dollar value rate, the United States pumped at least 300,000 million dollars from Western Europe in the past five years. The United States now, too, does not wish to give up the policy of financial and trade aggression with regard to both its partners-rivals and developing countries whose economy is under the burden of a huge debt.

PRAVDA's Zhukov Comments

LD040505 Moscow TASS in English 0456 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 4 TASS -- The annual meeting of the "Big Seven" or the "Select Club", as they are named in the West, were originally conceived chiefly to discuss economic issues, Yuriy Zhukov points out in the newspaper PRAVDA. Yet, as life has shown, the dove-tailing or coordination of the economy of the rival capitalist powers is, to put it mildly, no easy matter, to be more precise, an impracticable effort.

Under these conditions, the attention at the meetings of the "Big Seven" is increasingly switched to military-political issues. In that field, the American leaders find it easier to put their partners to "attention", as in passing such decisions emphasis is laid on the class solidarity of the capitalists. Hence, as Georges Marchais, general secretary of the French Communist Party, said on May 1, these meetings "have turned into a permanent institution", at which the USA imposes its will."

On these days at Bonn, the USA is seeking, in particular, support from the "Seven" for its notorious "star wars" preparations, and, moreover, insists that they should take an active part in the preparations to create strike space weapons.

A cunning argument is used in this effort. It is claimed that scientific research and development will be of much significance for the development of modern technology in general, and should the allies of the United States refuse to participate in them, they would hopelessly fall behind their "big brother".

There is no doubt, however, the observer stresses in conclusion, that the tangle of inter-imperialist differences will increasingly tighten as time passes. They manifest themselves quite clearly already now.

Further Zhukov Comment

LD060617 Moscow TASS in English 0610 GMT 6 May 85

["To the Joy of Revanchists" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow May 7 TASS [dateline as received] -- "The political declaration which the 'Big Seven' adopted at their summit in Bonn contains revanchist ideas which are presented in only a slightly veiled form," writes Yuriy Zhukov, PRAVDA's political news analyst. "The declaration has a binding title 'On the 40th Anniversary of the End of World War II. But it does not contain a single word as to who unleashed the war, who is responsible for the death of tens of millions of people who were killed, tortured to death and burned alive in the fascist concentration camps, as to who fought against whom, and finally who lost the war and who won a victory".

"President Ronald Reagan of the United States in his numerous speeches in recent days emphasised in every way that ostensibly both the Hitlerite butchers and their victims were equally 'victims of the holocaust'", the news analyst points out.

"As the FRANCE PRESSE AGENCY has reported, Reagan used this monstrous formula once again in the speech on the occasion of laying a wreath at the cemetery of the Wehrmacht soldiers and SS men in Bitburg".

"Paying a tribute of forgiveness to the Hitlerite butchers, the U.S. President permitted himself to utter monstrous calumnies against the Soviet Union", Yuriy Zhukov writes. "It is precisely to the Soviet Union that the peoples of the countries, the present leaders of which have obediently accepted the political declaration containing transparent hints of support for the revanchist claims of the 'Die Ewig Gestrigen', to a great extent owe their liberation from the fascist yoke."

"'We look forward to a state of peace in Europe in which the German people will regain its unity through free self-determination', the declaration says. This is how, in Aesopian language, the FRG's revanchists who have not disarmed themselves, set out their claims to gobbling up the GDR and to a seizure of the lands which belong to Poland, Czechoslovakia and the USSR".

"This statement of the 'Big Seven', naturally, gives rise to wrathful condemnation everywhere, in the USA and the FRG as well", the news analyst emphasises. "Only the cheered up surviving SS men, who are holding their gatherings these days, welcome the support which they have received from the 'Big Seven'".

Aleksandr Zholkver

LD041748 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 4 May 85

[Aleksandr Zholkver commentary]

[Text] A conference of the leaders of the seven leading capitalist states -- the United States, the FRG, Great Britain, France, Italy, Japan, and Canada -- ended in Bonn today. Here is a latest news commentary from our political observer Aleksandr Zholkver:

Formally, meetings of the big seven, which in recent times have been taking place each year, are devoted to economic problems. On this occasion, however, a particularly extensive, and, I would say, particularly high-flown political declaration, has been adopted. It has been timed to coincide with the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe, though it is noteworthy that the document says nothing about who it was that unleashed that war, and altogether fails to even mention fascism or Hitlerite Germany.

Nevertheless, those taking part in the Bonn meeting say that we have learned the lessons of history, overcome enmity, and begun the process of reconciliation.

But what lies behind these splendid words? Which lessons of history can they be talking about when claims to world domination are now being put forward in the United States of a kind that once upon a time were being declared by the Hitlerites? And when, in order to achieve these aims, the stakes are being placed upon force in every part of the world, from Europe, where American nuclear missiles are being deployed, to Central America, where they are trying to stifle the Nicaraguan revolution with the help of economic sanctions and military pressure? Indeed, how is it possible to talk about overcoming enmity when the basic yardstick of Washington policy is -- as it was during the days of fascism -- an anti-Sovietism characteristic of the cave-dweller and the whipping up of hostility towards the Soviet Union, which bore upon its own shoulders the main burden of the struggle against Hitlerism? And what kind of reconciliation process is this, the symbol for which is to be the visit planned for tomorrow by President Reagan and Chancellor Kohl to the Wehrmacht cemetery at Bitburg, where SS men are buried who shot both American prisoners of war and German antifascists, not to mention millions of people in the countries of Europe that were occupied by the Hitlerites.

Noteworthy, too, is what is missing from the Bonn document. It contains neither proposals of its own for ending the arms race nor any constructive reaction to the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union. To judge by the press reports, something completely different was under discussion behind the closed doors in Bonn -- The American plans for building up armaments and preparations for "star wars."

And so, neither the words, nor to an even greater degree, the practical deeds of those who played the leading role in preparing and holding the latest big seven meeting contain the slightest evidence that they have learned the lessons of history and that they are ready to make their contribution to strenghtening peace that was bought at such a dear price by the peoples that smashed the hated fascism.

Sergey Kulik

LD042031 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1021 GMT 4 May 85

[Excerpts] Moscow, 4 May (TASS) -- TASS political observer Sergey Kulik writes:

Although it is Reagan who has given the annual economic conference of the Western "Big Seven" in Bonn its overtly political tone, the United States has not succeeded in gaining any visible political dividends there.

The master of the White House has made no secret of regarding the Bonn meeting as an opportunity for a display of "Atlantic solidarity". Under its flag, the American President had hoped to enlist the unconditional support of his allies for this course towards a further speeding-up of the arms race and the whipping-up of tension and confrontation with the world of socialism. In addition, no secret has been made of the fact that Washington's aim at the conference was to force the other heads of the "Seven" to become involved in implementing the sinister "star war" plans.

However, the only matter on which the parties to the Bonn meeting managed to achieve unity has been the mouthing of vague words about "love of peace," adherence to the "Western ideals of freedom and democracy," and the "need for East-West dialogue." How far their words and deeds diverge is particularly apparent in the so-called political declaration "On the 40th Anniversary of the End of World War II," which doesn't even find space to condemn Hitlerism and militarism.

There is every sign that the extremely acute commercial and economic clashes that are rending the "Club of the Seven" will only get worse, and will also darken political relations among them.

Boris Kalyagin

LD052008 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 5 May 85

[From the "World Today" program presented by Boris Kalyagin]

[Text] The trip by U.S. President Reagan is connected with the number 11. The tour by the White House leader will last 11 days, and this is the 11th time that the heads of government and state of the leading capitalist powers have gathered together in Bonn for their annual meeting, which has been timed to coincide with the U.S. President's trip. Has this number become a lucky one for Reagan? Evidently not. The Western partners have put up desperate resistance to Washington's attempts to foist decisions upon them that run counter to their national interests. A number of participants in the meeting, first and foremost France, expressed disagreement with the U.S. position on a number of key problems.

The Americans tried to compel their partners to begin economic talks in the near future within the GATT framework.

Washington is insisting on holding such a meeting in order to gain new concessions from its allies in the area of trade. The thing is that the high dollar exchange rate has led to a historically unprecedented U.S. trade deficit with the other capitalist countries Washington is trying to solve the problem at the expense of the others by demanding open markets for American goods from its partners. As it turns out, however, the U.S. President was unable to get France to agree to starting talks early next year on tariffs and trade. At the same time, the U.S. delegation rejected Paris' proposal for a restructuring of the Western currency system, which is based on the dominance of the U.S. dollar.

Another subject that gave rise to the greatest argument among the members of the big seven was the U.S. "star wars" plans. The United States demanded unconditional support from its allies for this ominous program, which is called the Strategic Defense Initiative. As bait, it offered them participation in the research work to create an antimissile defense system in space. However, neither pressure nor promises have had any effect for the time being. The U.S. attempts to step up the pressure have just led to a widening of the differences. The West European countries doubt that the United States will share its very latest technology with them. At the same time, participation in the so-called research work could lead to a brain drain from West Europe to the United States. However, the main thing the Western partners are afraid of is that the "star wars" program will lead to a fresh escalation of the arms race. The United States was originally counting on putting a clause in the final communique on the meeting on the allies' support for its Strategic Defense Initiative. However, Washington had to withdraw that demand after France insisted that the communique include a pledge to avert an arms race in space.

At a press conference after the meeting, President Mitterrand stressed that his country did not intend to take part in the U.S. project for the militarization of space. Nor did the repressive sanctions that Washington has announced against Nicaragua meet with support from the participants in the meeting. The Canadian representatives even expressed dissatisfaction over the fact that Washington had once again not consulted its allies before introducing a trade embargo on Nicaragua. They pointed out that Ottawa would not permit the U.S. sanctions to be extended to Canadian branches of U.S. corporations.

On the whole, the results of the meeting gave rise to evident disappointment in the West. A commentator for the U.S. television company CBS thought that the meeting of the leaders of the big seven ended virtually without result. The London SUNDAY TELEGRAPH stressed that the attempts to remove trade barriers failed completely. And U.S. officials, according to CBS, are saying privately that all Reagan needed was a failure in Bonn to complete the lack of success that he had recently been dogged with.

NAKASONE'S COMMENTS IN BONN ON SDI VIEWED

LD041009 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0630 GMT 4 May 85

[Nikolay Lutsenko commentary]

[Text] Japan is being drawn deeper and deeper into dangerous U.S. militarist preparations. At the conference in Bonn of leaders of the seven foremost capitalist powers, in essence, Prime Minister Nakasone backed the U.S. "star wars" plans. At the microphone is Nikolay Lutsenko:

The Japanese prime minister has taken yet another step on the way to all-round support for the U.S. so-called "Strategic Defense Initiative." This is how the press is appraising the statements made by Nakasone in the FRG capital. Indeed, the Japanese leader's slide, under Washington's pressure, onto the dangerous path of complicity in the "star wars" program is not difficult to trace chronologically.

As recently as during a 2 January meeting with President Reagan in Los Angeles, Nakasone merely stated his understanding of the advisability of research in the field of antimissile defense with space-based elements, since this project supposedly was of a purely defensive nature and would lead to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

Bound by Washington's geopolitical plan and a so-called "security treaty," Japan long since became one of the central links in the U.S. global military-bloc system and lost even the outward trappings of independence. On 27 March, the Japanese Government received an ultimatum from U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger in which Japan was given 60 days to indicate which areas of the program it could help in developing. I would like to remind you that in fact Japan was already effectively engaged in the "star wars" plans. For more than a year now, the Japanese-U.S. agreement has been in effect on passing the latest in Japanese technology to the Pentagon.

Practical participation in U.S. militarist preparations and the evasive replies of Japanese state leaders should, in Nakasone's view, have established the balance that would save the face of Japanese diplomacy. However, Washington does little to spare the pride of its junior partner. In conditions of growing criticism for the "star wars" program in the United States itself and among a number of its West European NATO partners, Tokyo has been allotted the role of chief assistant in pushing this idea through.

On 1 May in Bonn, Nakasone, with FRG Chancellor Kohl, declared that research leading to the militarization of space is morally justified, and the next day, at a meeting with Reagan, said that solidarity and guarantees of the security of the free world are indivisible. This, KYODO TSUSHIN reports, was received by the President and Secretary of State Shultz as approval for the "star wars" program.

It is apparent that it the Japanese prime minister previously proposed to obligingly turn the Japanese islands into an unsinkable aircraft carrier for the United States, now Japanese technology is to be the missile carrier that will raise military confrontation to new heights.

LEVIN COMMENTS ON WW II ANNIVERSARY, GENEVA TALKS

LD041451 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 4 May 85

[From the "Time, Events, People" program]

[Excerpts] Now to the international part of our program. Here is All-Union Radio commentator Viktor Levin to answer your questions, comrades.

[Levin] Let me start with a letter from war veteran Aleksandr Pavlovich Podusenko, a participant in the defense of Odessa and Sevastopol. He asks how the great victory anniversary is being celebrated in different countries.

The socialist countries are marking the anniversary widely and festively. They pay homage to the historic feat performed by Soviet soldiers and the soldiers of the resistance movement of the other countries that fought against Hitlerite fascism, and they emphasize their loyalty to the ideals of peace and international cooperation.

In the West, what I would call a dual attitude toward the great anniversary can be discerned. On the one hand, in Britain, France, and in a number of other countries that formed part of the anti-Hitler coalition, the fallen are being commemorated. At times -- although not as often as the historical record warrants -- our combat alliance and the Soviet Army's contribution to victory are recalled.

However, the government circles of these countries are more concerned in their public utterances about not offending the Germans -- those are their exact words. This dubious principle, and I shall return to why it is dubious later, is one of the motives behind U.S. President Reagan's decision to lay a wreath on the graves of SS men. The FRG, official Washington circles say, is our ally, and an important NATO ally at that. In the Pentagon's plans, the West German Bundeswehr is cast in the role of main land force, and it is being said the feelings of this ally must be spared.

However, let us examine what lies behind the dubious principle of not offending the Germans. The key question is what Germans we are talking about. It seems to me that in this context, this principle also sounds insulting to those Germans who died at the hands of the Hitlerite butchers -- thousands upon thousands of people -- it is insulting to those Germans who fought against nazism in the ranks of the Soviet and allied armies who believed in victory over evil in the grimmest years of Nazi domination and contributed to this victory. This principle is only attractive to those who attempt to lump the German people and the Hitlerites together, who have not understood or learned anything. Incidentally, indignation at Reagan's decision to lay a wreath at the graves of SS men is no less in the FRG than in the United States.

In the West, they talk of reconciliation, but in practice they attempt to whitewash the Hitlerites. It is no concidence that this is closely interlaced with the policy of belittling the significance of the victories of the Soviet Army and our country's role in the rout of nazism. These are two sides of the same anti-Soviet and antisocialist coin.

On the subject of how the victory anniversary is being marked in the West, however, I should like to end with something else: The broad masses of people remember the feat performed by our people, they know how dear victory cost, and this determines the tone of the anniversary celebrations.

Robert Surenovich Sagamanyan from Yerevan asks: What was the outcome of the first stage of the Geneva talks between the USSR and United States on the space and nuclear armaments, and he also asks: Is the issue of nuclear armaments in possession of other countries being considered there? I shall start with the second part of the question: It is not being considered. What is involved is only the issue of the Soviet and American armaments, although, as the results of the first stage of the Geneva talks show, progress on that issue even taken alone is very slow. They way the talks proceed gives sufficient grounds to conclude that Washington's course is not aimed at reaching an accord with the Soviet Union. For example, this is clear from the fact that Washington is refusing to discuss the topic of preventing the arms race from being shifted to space at all simultaneously with discussing the issue of limiting and reducing nuclear arms. Such a position evidently finds its explanation in the fact that certain circles in the United States are still striving to dominate the world, and first of all in the military respect. However, these are unrealistic hopes. The signing of the protocol that prolonged the term of the Warsaw Pact for another 20 years was one more proof of the unrealistic nature of Washington's military aspirations. The community of the socialist countries is firmly standing guard over peace.

REPORTAGE ON REAGAN'S VISIT TO BITBURG

L. Ponomarev Commentary

LD051544 Moscow TASS in English 1432 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 5 TASS -- TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

Contrary to numerous protests in the United States and in the European and other countries which had suffered at the hands of Hitler nazism, U.S. President Reagan today visited a military cemetery in Bitburg, West Germany, at which Nazi criminals, including SS-men, had been buried. As President and commander-in-chief of the U.S. Armed Forces, which had been allied with the USSR, Britain, France and other forces of liberation in the struggle against nazism, Reagan paid civilian and military honours to the Nazi executioners who had killed thousands of children, women, old people and prisoners of war of the allied armies, including Americans. History does not know many instances of such insulting attitude to the memory of those who were killed in the sacred battle for the freedom of the peoples. Millions of people whose fathers, brothers, husbands, children and compatriots fell on the battlefield or were killed in Nazi death camps view President Reagan's official visit to the Bitburg cemetery as appalling sacrilege.

Reagan tries to picture his visit to the graves of Nazi beasts who had butchered civilians in European countries, wiped out the French village Oradour with its entire population and killed thousands of American soldiers as a symbol of "reconciliation of the two peoples," this is, the USA and West Germany. But it is nothing short of demagogy or an attempt to shift the blame for the atrocities of nazism onto those who themselves were victims of nazism. Also, to put nazism and its victims on one plank means deliberately to distort history. The present-day leader of a "crusade against communism" seems to be exonerating participants in the past "crusade," who killed millions upon millions of innocent people.

And millions of people who are living today wrote letters and petitions and staged marches and demonstrations of protest to urge Reagan and to plead with him in the name of 50 million people who had been killed in the Second World War not to visit the cemetery of the Nazi killers, not to insult the sentiments of the present-day generations. But all in vain! Calculations which, perhaps, do not lie on the surface of the insulting step taken by the U.S. President gained the upper hand. His incendiary talk after the visit to the cemetery about "victims of totalitarianism," among whom Reagan counts the Nazi executioners buried at Bitburg, the Afghan counterrevolutionary bandits, the Nicaraguan "contras" and the CIA mercenaries fighting against the peoples of Laos, Kampuchea, Vietnam and Cuba, shows that the U.S. President had far from peace-making goals in mind when he went to the Nazi cemetery.

Moreover, the Western press says, President Reagan wanted his visit to the military cemetery to be a sort of thanks to the West German Chancellor Kohl for his unconditional support for Reagan's infamous "star wars" program. That program was welcomed especially boisterously and with undisguised joy by the West German revanchists, still dreaming about disrupting the post-war setup in Europe. That dream of madmen was manifest even in the political declaration of the participants in the conference of the seven leading capitalist states just approved in Bonn, who expressed the hope for the removal from Europe of barriers raised in it. It is reactionary forces which would like to avenge themselves for the defeat of Nazi Germany. There is a link of a sort between the "star wars" plans and the revanchists' schemes: They want the militarization of space and access to advanced military technology.

Mankind paid for peace which it enjoys today with too dear a price. So it is not only dangerous but criminal to forget the past. It is even more dangerous to distort it, as some politicians in the West are trying to do to advance selfish ambitions or chauvinistic ideology.

Bitburg, Bergen-Belsen Protests

LD051541 Moscow TASS in English 1424 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] Bonn May 5 TASS -- In the course of his stay in the FRG, U.S. President Reagan has visited the military cemetery in Bitburg today. He was accompanied by Chancellor Helmut Kohl. In disregard of the wave of indignation and public protests in many countries of the world, including in the USA, protests of war verterans and former inmates of Nazi concentration camps, he laid a wreath in the cemetery containing, in particular, the graves of SS cutthroats, who exterminated tens of thousands Americans in the Ardennes and staged a massacre of American POW's in Malmedy.

On the eve of the arrival of the U.S. President, tight security measures were taken in the city. The territory of the cemetery was completely closed to unauthorised visitors. Special police detachments in combat outfit were trying to disperse mass demonstrations. Yet hundreds of people gathered outside the cemetery to express a protest against Reagan's visit to the tombs of former SS men, which is an insult upon the memory of victims of fascist terror. The protestors carried posters saying "No Tribute to the Memory of SS Murderers."

Considering the wave of indignation, the ceremony in the military cemetery was reduced to a minimum. Right after it, Reagan went to the nearby U.S. Air Force base, where he addressed U.S. servicemen. In his speech he was actually trying to justify the sacreligious visit to the cemetery of Nazi murderers. He was forced to admit that he had recently received many letters of protest against that gesture. According to the President himself, the cemetery contains the graves of tens of SS men, whose crimes, as he said, shall be considered most terrible. As if mocking at the memory of the victims of Hitler fascism, Reagan said that the other people buried there were only soldiers of the German Army, whose guilt only God could judge. In his speech, which was full of lachrymose Biblical dicta, he failed to mention a word about the enormous losses suffered by the Soviet people, who made a decisive contribution to saving civilisation from brown plague. On the contrary, he used his speech for crude slanderous attacks against the USSR and the other countries, whose policy does not suit the book of the U.S. Administration.

Reagan repeatedly called for a "reconciliation with the German people", yet the Washington propagandists are known to wish to resort to this formula as a cover for a strengthening military alliance with the FRG, whose territory is used for the deployment of nuclear weapons targetted on the USSR. To this end it is planned to deploy cruise missiles also in Bitburg next year.

In an attempt to bring down the wave of world-wide protests against the visit to the Bitburg cemetery, an inspection, before the visit, of former Nazi concentration camp Bergen-Belsen was included in the last moment into the programme of the visit. Yet even there the President was met by the demonstrators, many of whom had spent there the whole previous night to protest against an insult upon the memory of millions of victims of nazism, which was the visit to the Bitburg cemetery. The police took measures in advance to prevent protest statements, yet despite that the President was met with indignant shouting of hundreds of demonstrators, among whom were also members of legislative assemblies of New York, New Jersey, Ohio and California States, who specially arrived there from the USA.

Visit To 'Rehabilitate' Nazis

LD041319 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0230 GMT 4 May 85

[From the "International Diary" program persented by Nikolay Agayants]

[Excerpta] Again and again, one observes that certain circles in the West not only would like to consign to oblivion the past associated with World War II, and whitewash the Nazi criminals by hook or by crook, but even want to exploit the present tense international situation to whip up still further their unbridled anti-Soviet campaign and carry on a blasphemous fraternization with the remnants of the Hitlerite revanchists. Despite numerous protests against President Reagan's decision to visit the Wehrmacht soldiers' cemetery at Bitburg, the master of the White House intends to lay wreathes on the SS graves on 5 May together with Chancellor Kohl. THE NEW YORK TIMES reports that among those who will welcome Reagan at Bitburg is a former member of the SS Hitlerjugend tank division, one (Kasper). This whole malodorous venture, which is being dished up by reactionary propaganda as some sort of setp toward a reconciliation of the American and German peoples, has nothing to do with improving relations between the United States and the FRG, but is, really, an attempt to rehabilitate the fascist murders who were branded as such at Nuremburg, and make misanthropic Nazi ideas tolerable. At the very same time as the head of the present Washington administration is tirelessly intoning about universal forgiveness and Christian charity, the remaining SS men, who lead a comfortable life in the FRG under the wing of the present authorities, have held a provocative rally in the West German town of Nesselwang: a get-together of Hitlerite cut-throats from the Totenkopf division. Reunions of the warriors of the SS Totenkopf tank division, and of the Hitlerjugend already mentioned, are to follow. And all this is being done on the eve of Victory Day! It is monstrous cynicism and monstrous connivance on the part of the FRG Government.

So in spite of the protests of the progressive public of West Germany, the SS rabble are openly assembling for their provocative meetings. Meanwhile, also in the FRG, in Frankfurt, a shameful show trial has been mounted against activists of the antiwar movement. West German justice is about to take reprisals against those who have protested against the deployment of American Pershings in their country. That is how in the Federal Republic today, as in a kingdom of distorting mirrors, everything is being turned upside-down.

REAGAN DECLINES MEETING WITH SPD'S WILLY BRANDT

LD052037 Moscow TASS in English 2024 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] Bonn May 5 TASS -- A spokesman for the press service of the SDP (Social Democratic Party) of West Germany confirmed today in answer to a query of a TASS correspondent that U.S. President Ronald Reagan declined to have a meeting with SDP chairman Willy Brandt. The U.S. side said on that matter that the planned meeting would not take place, since Reagan did not intend to see representatives of opposition parties separately.

According to a DPA news agency report, Willy Brandt intended to hand over to the U.S. President a joint document prepared by the organizations -- Third World Foundation and Parliamentarians for Peace. The SDP chairman received the document from leaders of these organizations during his recent visit to the United States and they requested him to hand it over personally to Ronald Reagan. The document urges the leaders of the USA and the USSR to prevent an arms race in space, to conclude a treaty on complete prohibition of nuclear weapon tests and to freeze the deployment of nuclear missiles. The authors of the document also urge all states which have nuclear weapons to pledge not to be the first to use them.

In a letter addressed to the U.S. President Willy Brandt expressed his regrets over the fact that the meeting never took place and said he did not understand why R. Reagan had no time to receive him. During the visits of former U.S. presidents to West Germany such meeting always took place, the SDP chairman underlined.

On account of this Willy Brandt refused to attend an official dinner given in honor of President Reagan by Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker of West Germany. The Social Democratic Party will be represented by SDP Deputy Chairmen Hans-Jochen Vogel and Johannes Rau.

IZVESTIYA CARRIES AMBASSADOR HARTMAN ARTICLE

PM301753 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Apr 85 Morning Edition p 4

[Article by Arthur A. Hartman, U.S. ambassador to the USSE: "About the Meeting on the Elbe"]

[Text] Moscow, April 1985 -- On this day 40 years ago, U.S. and Soviet servicemen met at Torgau on the banks of the Elbe River. I, then a young airman serving in the Far East, along with thousands of my fellow countrymen and allies remember that event well and the happiness and hope that it engendered. Two great peoples were finally united in common struggle despite their great differences. Nothing seemed impossible in that radiant spring of 1945.

Much has changed since then. The veterans of the meeting on the Elbe are now grandfathers. The bright hopes of 1945 have dimmed under the influence of the postwar reality. Our striking cooperation in the war years has faded. We regret that.

But there have been some changes since 1945 which we do not regret. In May the U.S. President will meet with our former allies, Britain, France, and Canada, in Bonn. The leaders of the FRG, Italy, and Japan, our former enemies, will also be present at that meeting. Together we shall ponder the lessons of 1939-1945 and celebrate the anniversary of the end of that war. But, even more important, we shall be marking the events which have occurred since: 40 years without war; the restoration of a shattered world; the establishment of democracy on the ruins of nazism and fascism, and the emergence of a new generation for whom the war is merely distant history.

We shall be thinking about our other great ally at the meeting in Bonn. I was recently pleased and very moved when I came across a particular poster in a Moscow store. It depicted a U.S. and Soviet soldier greeting each other under the caption: "We will remember those who fought and greeted us on the Elbe." We shall also remember that.

In fact, the U.S. people will never be able to forget the heroic contribution made by the Soviet people and their Armed Forces to the cause of victory in Europe. Nor can we forget the price of that contribution. Our country was fortunate in that hostilities did not take place on our soil. Nor were our losses as considerable. This does not mean, however, that our human losses were any less tragic, and this does not make us any less sensitive to the horrors of war.

There are Americans at my embassy who took part in the war. There are Americans there whose fathers were the the advance units of the Soviet Army on the Eastern Front and who survived the bloody battles when the assault troops landed on the Pacific islands. There are Americans there whose relatives died on the Sicily beaches and on other battlefields from Murmansk to the Gulf of Mexico and from Pearl Harbor to Burma in a war which for us was indeed a world war.

Our casualties remain for us as real and alive as the Soviet Union's casualties are for its people. They are no less sacred to us and we have learned no less from them.

One thing has remained unchanged since the meeting on the Elbe. Those who met there could see peace approaching. Aware of the horrors of war, they were fully resolved to protect that peace. In the age of weapons of mass destruction our resolve must be no less than theirs.

President Reagan has said that nuclear war "cannot be won and must not be fought." This viewpoint has been the basis of U.S. foreign policy since 1945 and remains so today. It forms the basis of our approach to the talks which began in Geneva in March and of the stance which we are adopting at them. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev said in March that it would be fitting to mark the anniversary of the end of World War II by an improvement in East-West relations. We fully agree with that.

PRAVDA'S KORIONOV SCORES NICARAGUA 'SANCTIONS'

PM030911 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 May 85 First Edition p 5

[Vitaliy Korionov "Political Observer's Notes": "Shameful Sanctions"]

[Text] According to U.S. press reports, Washington has finished preparing a new presidential directive on the imposition of economic sanctions against Nicaragua. It is a question of an embargo on trade with Nicaragua, the ending of air communications with that country, and the banning of Nicaraguan ships from calling at American ports.

As is known, White House efforts in forcing Congress to appropriate $14 million to finance bandit formations of "contras" met with resistance on Capitol Hill. Of course, it is not only a matter of the $14 million. The financing of the Somozist killers goes on. Recently, for instance, reports have appeared in the U.S. press to the effect that the "contras" are continuing to receive many millions of dollars from certain "private" sources in the United States, behind which is, once again, the shadow of the CIA.

The White House has now decided to bypass Congress again: The President's decree that has been prepared does not need Capitol approval. At the same time, an attempt is being made to play on the feelings of those congressmen who prefer to achieve Washington's aims by less risky means, like economic pressure.

The U.S. newspapers report that the administration does not intend to confine itself to these actions, but is examining "all possible options" for the struggle against revolutionary Nicaragua. Naturally, Washington's latest unfriendly action cannot fail to complicate the already difficult situation for the Nicaraguan economy. The Nicaraguan people are fully determined to defend their revolution's gains, however; they do not intend to capitulate to imperialism.

EMBARGO AGAINST NICARAGUA 'PRELUDE' TO INVASION

LD051547 Moscow TASS in English 1439 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 5 TASS -- TASS commentator Sergey Kudryavskiy writes:

The embargo of the Reagan administration on trade with Nicaragua which the international public assesses as an outright act of gross arbitrariness was not unexpected.

Since the victory of the Sandinist revolution the present tenant of the White House has been doing everything he can to stifle the economy of the young republic: The granting of credits by U.S. and international banks to Nicaragua was stopped on Reagan's insistence, the quota for the purchases of Nicaraguan sugar was lowered, the volume of bilateral trade was decreased. And now the "economic war" has been launched in full volume against the sovereign republic whose people chose its own road of development.

Political observers note that the introduction of the trade embargo is the prelude to direct U.S. military invasion of Nicaragua. One cannot but agree with this opinion for the history of the United States relations with developing countries abounds in such examples.

After the Batista pro-American regime was overthrown in Cuba and the revolutionary government came into power, Washington announced in July 1960 the reduction of the quota for the purchase of Cuban sugar, later it announced the reduction of the supplies of oil, spares, foods and medicines to Cuba. When these actions failed to bring the results the USA expected, the CIA organized the invasion of the freedom island by Cuban mercenaries. The U.S. military venture, as is known, ended in utter fiasco.

The same tactic of "economic war" was assumed by the United States with regard to Chile when the government of President Salvador Allende was in office there. Acting on the scenario tested by the CIA, the U.S. Administration used every possible lever for bringing economic and political pressure on Chile. Denial of credits, provoking of strikes of owners of freight transport, the splitting of the army -- such were some of the methods to which the United States resorted. When those methods failed to cause the expected discontent of the working masses of Chile, the CIA staged a bloody state coup with the use of its puppets in the Chilean Army.

The world public also remembers the events in Grenada. The measures of the government of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop to improve the living standards of the people and to liquidate social inequality caused Washington's annoyance. Stirring up the anti-Grenadian hysteria and hampering the social and economic development of the island, the United States hoped to arrest the development of the Grenadian revolution. Realizing that this campaign was suffering a fiasco President Reagan sanctioned the U.S. military invasion of the island under the invented pretext of "protection of American students" on Grenada.

And now, going by facts, the United States intends to use the same scenario in Nicaragua. There is no denying that the economic boycott imposed by the White House will cause additional difficulties in Nicaragua. But, as it is stressed in a statement of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, the revolution in Nicaragua will withstand this blow. The Sandinist revolution cannot be crushed. It has on its side everyone who treasures the ideals of peace, progress and democracy.

VARIOUS WORLD FIGURES COMMENT ON EMBARGO

LD042040 Moscow TASS in English 1721 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 4 TASS -- By TASS commentator Sergey Staroselskiy: The U.S. Administration's decision to introduce an embargo on trade with Nicaragua, to suspend air services between the United States and that country, to prohibit ships flying the Nicaraguan flag from calling on U.S. ports caused a tidal wave of condemnation and protests the world over.

Fernando Moran, minister of foreign affairs of Spain, summoned the ambassadors of the USA and Nicaragua to Spain and expressed to them regrets of his government over Washington's sanctions. He offered mediation of the Spanish Government with a view to resuming U.S.-Nicaraguan talks in Manzanillo that had been unilaterally broken off by the U.S. President Raul Alfonsin of Argentina, speaking at a meeting with religious figures of Latin America, condemned the imposition of the embargo and stressed that the settlement of the Central American conflict demanded, above all, respect for the principle of non-interference.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico published a statement saying that U.S. economic pressure was incompatible with efforts made by the Contadora Group to bring about a peaceful settlement in Central America. All states, the document goes on, are obliged to respect the principles of international law recorded in the charters of the United Nations and the Organization of American States.

Edgar Camacho, minister of foreign affairs of Bolivia, stressed that Washington's decision constituted a violation of international law. The minister reaffirmed solidarity of his country with Nicaragua. Luis Hernandez, deputy general secretary of the Latin American Economic System, described the U.S. embargo as an act of lawlessness. The Senate of Uruguay unanimously approved a resolution condeming U.S. trade sanctions against Nicaragua.

The White House's hopes that at least its closest allies will support its move against a sovereign country were futile. Prime Minister Brian Mulroney of Canada said that his country would continue developing trade with Nicaragua. He stressed that an embargo on trade and economic relations with Nicaragua would not be in Canada's interest. U.S. sanctions have been denounced by Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway Svenn Stray, a member of the presidium of the broad of the Social Democratic Party of Germany Hans-Jurgen Wischnewski, the leader of Britain's Liberal Party David Steel, Labor MP Denis Healey and well known political figures in other countries. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz had to admit at a recent news conference that economic sanctions against Nicaragua failed to meet understanding among European partners.

The puppet regime of El Salvador and the authorities of Puerto Rico which is "freely associated" with the United States were among the very few who expressed support for that fresh manifestation of Washington's great [words indistinct].

Reports about demonstrations and rallies of solidarity with the people of Nicaragua are coming from all over the world. The people taking part in the express strong protest against continuing attempts of the U.S. Administration to change the political system of a sovereign state by means of military and political blackmail and economic pressure. It is impossible to bring the people of Nicaragua to its knees, for it fought for and gained the right to freedom and independence. All the people of goodwill side with it.

CANADA EXPRESSES 'DISCONTENT' OVER TRADE EMBARGO

LD041120 Moscow TASS in English 1023 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Bonn May 4 TASS -- Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs Charles J. Clark told a press conference here that he had expressed discontent to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz over the fact that Washington did not consult it allies before clamping down trade and economic sanctions against Nicaragua. Charles Clark notified the U.S. secretary of state that Ottawa would not permit that Washington's trade embargo should apply to those Canadian branches of United States corporations, which are engaged in trade operations with Nicaragua.

Ottawa May 4 TASS -- The influential newspaper GLOBE AND MAIL has condemned the attempts of the USA at destablizing the Nicaraguan Government. It stressed that Washington's decision to impost trade and economic sanctions against Nicaragua does not have the support of the allies of the United States at the Organization of American States and Canada. The newspaper stresses that the Reagan administration has found itself "in isolation in the Western Hemisphere."

COMMENT ON DIRECT ARMS SUPPLIES TO AFGHAN REBELS

LD052246 Moscow World Service in English 2010 GMT 5 May 85

[Viktor Olin commentary]

[Text] Preparations for American arms supplies to Afghanistan outside the current routes of transportation through Pakistan have been reported at a recent session of a House subcommittee of the United States Congress. Selig Harrison, a senior associate at a private research organization, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, told a subcommittee that the arms would be airlifted from bases in the United States straight to Afghan territory. The supplies are to include heavy military hardware, such as artillery.

An analysis of American press reports about Afghanistan might create the impression that the operation is mostly aimed at getting rid of Pakistani mediation in supplies to Afghan counterrevolutionaries. Washington has lamented many times that the arms supplies controlled by Pakistan under an agreement with the CIA do not reach the terrorists fully. Up to 40 percent of the arms are lost en route. However, there seem to be much weightier reasons for the escalation of the undeclared war the United States is waging against sovereign Afghanistan. The developments have shown that the hundreds of millions of dollars spent by Washington on subversive activities, such as acts of sabotage, terrorism, and murders, have not produced a desirable result. Bands of counterrevolutionaries do not have time to heal their wounds. In these circumstances, the United States intends to reach several objectives by conducting direct arms supplies. First of all, it hopes to increase the combat potential of the terrorists by furnishing them with the latest military weaponry. It is also possible that American military advisers will be more actively involved in the process of training, and thus they'll have greater chances of influencing combat operations. It is also thought that the establishment of direct contacts between the United States and counterrevolutionary groups will raise their spirits and the desire to continue the war against the Afghan people.

However, the U.S. media say that the U.S. leadership has no illusions about the counterrevolutionaries' ability to win a military victory. Why, then, has the United States spent $625 million on aid in the past 5 years? On U.S. policy in Afghanistan, THE NEW YORK TIMES said some time ago that it stakes on destabilizing the situation in the country that had carried out a revolution, and that's why Washington is interested in continuing the bloodshed, tension, and difficulties in the day-to-day life of Afghanistan. In such conditions, it is easier to block a settlement which the Afghans need but which contradicts U.S. plans for that part of the world.

EXPULSION OF 4 POLISH DIPLOMATS ANNOUNCED

LD041136 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Washington -- U.S. news agencies report that the U.S. State Department has announced the expulsion of four Polish diplomats from the country.

KABUL MEETING MARKS USSR'S WW II VICTORY

LD042251 Moscow TASS in English 2222 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Kabul May 4 TASS -- A public meeting, devoted to the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory over Hitlerite fascism, was held in the Afghan capital today. Present at the meeting were general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Babrak Karmal, members of the Political Bureau of the Party's Central Committee, ministers, prominent Afghan military leaders. A report at the meeting was made by Sultan Ali Keshtmand, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Council of Ministers.

The Soviet people's victory over Hitlerism, he said, was a new page in the history of mankind. It changed the alignment of forces on the planet and assisted the gaining of independence by Asian and African peoples. Many peoples participated in the struggle against Hitlerite Germany and its satellites, but the main brunt fell upon the Soviet Union which made the decisive contribution to victory.

Events of the post-war years, said Sultan Ali Keshtmand, show that the West seeks to put into oblivion the lessons of history. International imperialism with the United States at the head is now building up the arms race, spreading it into outer space, fanning up international conflicts, increasing the threat of a new war. The undeclared aggression against Democratic Afghanistan is continuing. But imperialist forces are firmly opposed by the peace movement, headed by the USSR and other countries of the socialist community. The USSR repeatedly put forward constructive proposals aimed at preservation and consolidation of peace. These proposals meet the aspirations of all peoples of the world, including the Afghan people, said the head of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

AFGHAN 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY' SMUGGLERS ROUTED

PM030927 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 May 85 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent A. Pilippov report: "They Balk at Nothing"]

[Text] Ankara, 2 May -- In a fierce clash near the city of Quetta, Pakistani border police forces routed a major base of smugglers who were trying to penetrate Iranian territory by force of arms. It transpired that the smugglers were so-called "Afghan refugees" belonging to Hezb-e Eslami-e and other counterrevolutionary groups.

As news agencies have reported from Karachi, they were trying to ship more than 17 tons of drugs to Western Europe, using a trade caravan. Drug smuggling has become one of the main sources of finance for the subversive activity of counterrevolutionary gangs operating in Afghanistan.

COMMENTARY VIEWS U.S. OFFICIAL"S VISIT TO INDIA

LD051741 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0630 GMT 5 May 85

[Commentary by Vladimir Beloshapko]

[Text] Ikle, U.S. under secretary of defense, has concluded his visit to India. According to reports from Delhi, in the course of the talks N. Rao, India's minister of defense, termed the U.S. arms deliveries to Pakistan a threat to India's security and a factor contributing to tension in South Asia. Vladimir Beloshapko comments:

The high-ranking Pentagon spokesman did not succeed in convincing his interlocuters in Delhi that U.S.-Pakistani military links do not represent a serious danger to peace and stability on the South Asian subcontinent, and in particular to India's security. According to the press, this was the main aim of Ikle's trip. Naturally, a different outcome can hardly have been expected. There is absolutely no evidence of Washington's proclaimed peace-loving intentions in South Asia to be found in the actual activities of the United States there. On the contrary, these activities unequivocally indicate that Washington has an interest in maintaining tension in that part of Asia. Really, how can it be in the interest of peace to deliver massive supplies of the latest U.S. weapons to Pakistan's military regime? The total value of these deliveries is over $3 billion. These armaments are aggressive, including F-16 fighterbombers which are capable of carrying nuclear bombs. Of course, this is not in the interest of peace. Something else is obvious. With the arrival of each new delivery of armaments, Pakistan is being embroiled ever deeper in the undeclared war against neighboring Afghanistan. And this is not all. Pakistan's militarization has an obvious anti-Indian direction. One need not only look at the sad experience of the past, when Islamabad more than once launched military conflicts against India with the use of U.S. weapons. The nature of the present U.S.-Pakistani military link speaks for itself. Concern is inevitably caused by the fact, for example, that the greater part of U.S. armaments is being sent to areas close to the border with India, where the main bulk of Pakistani ground troops is located. As Afghanistan does not have a sea outlet, India also sees a clear threat to its own security in the Pakistani naval force's modernization now being carried out by the United States.

These and other facts provide evidence that Washington is turning Pakistan into a bridgehead for interference in the affairs of neighboring countries, a regional gendarme with the role of guarding U.S. interests in that part of the Asian Continent. Thus it is not concerned with normalizing the political climate in South Asia, or maintaining good-neighborly relations between states in that region. This is what was pointed out to Ikle, the U.S. under secretary of defense, during his visit to India.

U.S. SEEKS AUSTRALIA'S PARTICIPATION IN 'STAR WARS'

LD060104 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1920 GMT 5 May 85

[From the "World Today" program presented by Boris Kalyagin]

[Text] Talks went on for 2 days in Canberra between representatives of the United States and Australia on questions of arms limitation. The U.S. side, it is true, understands the agenda in its own way. It tried to draw Australia into the implementation of its military programs. Adelman, director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, tried to convince Hayden, the Australian foreign affairs minister, of the necessity to support Washington's "star wars" plans. As is known, the Australian Government has said that it will not take part in the implementation of this program. Despite Washington's new political pressure, the position of the Australians has remained unaltered. Canberra is against transferring the arms race to space.

PRAVDA CITES SRV'S LE DUAN REMARKS ON ANNIVERSARY

PM031030 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Apr 85 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "To Mark the Anniversary"]

[Text] Hanoi, 29 Apr -- The victory achieved by the Vietnamese people in the spring of 1975 put an end to U.S. neocolonialist domination and marked a great historical turning point in Vietnam's life. The whole country entered the era of independence, freedom, and socialism. This was said today by Le Duan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, at a ceremonial meeting in Hanoi to mark the 10th anniversary of South Vietnam's total liberation from the pro-U.S. puppet regime.

The victory in the war of resistance against the U.S. aggressors, just like all the Vietnamese people's other achievements in the cause of building and defending the motherland, is inseparably linked with the enormous assistance and valuable support of the Soviet Union, the speaker stressed. The celebration of the 10th anniversary of South Vietnam's total liberation coincides with another historic date -- the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism and Japanese militarism, in which the heroic Soviet people played a decisive role.

Bearing aloft the banner of peace raised by the great Lenin, the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are consistently implementing a policy aimed at easing international tension, reliably ensuring peace, and eliminating the threat of nuclear catastrophe. Vietnam's people fully support the Soviet Union's peace initiatives.

The speaker noted the SRV's desire to develop dialogue in Southeast Asia and declared that Vietnam wishes to normalize relations with China and is actively working in this direction. At the same time, the Vietnamese people are fully resolved to repulse all subversive and provocative actions. It is the task of all peoples in the planet, Le Duan emphasized, to further unite their efforts in the struggle for peace and security, against the threat of war.

HONECKER VISITS TO HONOR GERMAN ANTIFASCISTS

Arrives 4 May

LD041428 Moscow TASS in English 1423 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 4 TASS -- Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic, arrived in the Soviet Union today for a friendly visit at the invitation of the Central Committee of the CPSU and the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R.

At the airport Erich Honecker was greeted by Viktor Grishin, a member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the CPSU, first secretary of the Moscow City Committee of the CPSU, Petr Demichev, an alternate member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the CPSU, minister of culture of the U.S.S.R. Konstantin Rusakov, secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, and other officials.

Wreathlaying Ceremonies

LD052044 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 5 May 85

[From the "Vremya newscast"]

[Text] Erich Honecker visited the Vladimir Ilich Lenin Mausoleum and laid a wreath there. With a minute's silence, he honored the memory of the creator of the Soviet Union's Communist Party, the founder of the world's first socialist state. [video shows Honecker, Rusakov to his left, ascending the steps; to Rusakov's left is Sergey Akhromeyev, chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces; Honecker adjusts the wreath, comprised of red carnations; Rusakov stands behind him; brief clip of GDR soldiers holding wreath]

A wreath was also laid at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in the Kremlin Wall. The guest paid a tribute of respect to the Soviet soldiers who fell in the struggle against fascism, in the name of peace and happiness of peoples. Comrade Rusakov and other comrades accompanied Erich Honecker. [video shows three soldiers bearing wreath and placing it in front of the tomb; Honecker, flanked by unidentified man holding umbrella over him, approaches the wreath to adjust it; Honecker and Rusakov, on Honecker's right, shown standing in front of wreath under umbrellas and wearing hats and saluting; shot of the eternal flame, sprouting from middle of Soviet star in the ground]

Krasnogorsk Museum Opening

LD051511 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 5 May 85

[Excerpt] A solemn opening of the German antifascists' memorial museum took place today in the town of Krasnogorsk near Moscow. The important event was attended by Comrade Honecker, general secretary of SED Central Committee and chairman of GDR Council of State; Comrade Mies, chairman of the DKP [German Communist Party]; Comrade Schmitt, chairman of the SEW [Socialist Unity Party of West Berlin]; Comrade Angenford, member of the Presidium and Secretariat of the DKP Board; and Irma Gabel-Thaelmann, Ernst Thaelmann's daughter.

Comrade Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow City CPSU Committee; Comrade Demichev, candidate member of CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture; Comrade Rusakov, secretary of CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Konotop, first secretary of Moscow City CPSU Committee; Comrade Shauro, head of a CPSU Central Committee department; Comrade Lapin, chairman of the Soviet-GDR Friendship Society Central Board and chairman of USSR Gosteleradio [State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting]; Comrade Zagladin, first deputy head of the CPSU Central Committee International Department; Marshall of the Soviet Union Akhromeyev, chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces, and USSR first deputy defense minister; Comrade Shakhnazarov, deputy head of a CPSU Central Committee department; Comrade Aristov, USSR deputy foreign affairs minister; and Comrade Pestov, chairman of the Moscow Oblast Soviet Executive Committee, took part in the solemn opening of the museum. Also present was Winkelmann, the GDR ambassador to the USSR.

War and antifascist movement veterans, leading workers, and the creators and builders of the museum gathered for the opening.

TV on Museum Ceremony

LD052200 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1430 GMT on 5 May in its "Vremya" newscast carries a 19-minute report with video on Enrich Honecker's attendance at the opening of the memorial at Krasnogorsk.

The report opens with shot of Soviet and GDR flags on poles. This is followed by a streamer that reads "Fraternal greetings to the envoys of the SED, DKP, and SEW!" The next clip shows the crowd, assembled in front of a yellow two-story building, with most participants sheltered under umbrellas. A long shot shows officials mounting the rostrum, and a closeup reveals Honecker waving to the crowd. The crowd is shown waving back with GDR flags. A shot of the rostrum shows the front lineup as follows from left to right of screen: Honecker's translator, Honecker, Grishin, unidentified woman, Schmitt, Rusakov, and Mies. The next clip shows a red poster reading: "Long live inviolable, fraternal friendship between the peoples of the USSR and the GDR!", and a streamer reading: "People and party are united!".

Konotop is shown beginning to speak. The lineup is as follows: Konotop, Honecker's translator, Honecker, Grishin, unidentified woman, Schmitt, Rusakov, and Mies. A shot of the crowd shows poster: "It is with new labor achievements that we shall mark the 27th congress of our own Leninist party!" The GDR and Soviet anthems are played; during the GDR anthem Honecker is shown saluting and is the only one to continue saluting during performance of the Soviet anthem played by a military orchestra.

Demichev is then shown speaking. The lineup remains the same, although Rusakov can no longer be discerned between Schmitt and Mies. A subsequent closeup of the speaker reveals that Rusakov has changed position and is standing behind Demichev, to his left. A crowd shot shows a poster in German: "Long live the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism!"

Honecker is next shown speaking. The front lineup is: Honecker's translator, Rusakov behind him, to his left, Honecker in front of microphone, and Grishin. To Grinshin's left is an umbrella held by an unseen person. The following clip shows the same crowd, but no longer under umbrellas, in a lineup of: Honecker's translator, Honecker, Grishin, two unidentified women, Schmitt, and Mies.

Mies is then shown speaking. The front row lineup is: Mies, Honecker, Grishin, unidentified woman. To the right of Mies is an unidentified man. Rusakov, partly obscured, can be seen behind him.

Schmitt is shown speaking. The front row line-up is: Schmitt, Honecker, Grishin, unidentified woman.

Honecker and Mies are then seen cutting the tape opening the museum. Grishin and Honecker lead the way into the entrance of the museum. Leaders are then seen inside viewing the exhibits. Lineup from left to right: Mies, Rusakov, Honecker, unidentified woman, Grishin, and other unidentified persons. After some pictures of the exhibits Honecker Mies, and Grishin in turn are seen making entries in the distinguished visitors' book. As Grishin makes his entry, the lineup behind him is: Demichev, Rusakov, Mies, Honecker, and unidentified woman and man.

The video report now moves to the location in Moscow where the foundation stone of a memorial to Ernst Thaelmann is being laid. Pictures are shown of the crowd and setting. Grishin is shown opening the meeting. He is seen speaking at the rostrum. Lineup on the platform is: Demichev, Ponomarev, Grishin, someone who is presumably an interpreter, Honecker, Schmitt, and Mies. There is a giant portrait of Ernst Thaelmann overlooking the memorial site. The foundation stone is shown still veiled in a setting of flowers, with residential blocks beyond. Grishin is then shown cutting a ribbon to unveil the commemorative stone on the site of the future memorial to Ernst Thaelmann. Lineup of people in semicircle facing the commemorative stone moving clockwise from stone is: unidentified person, Ponomarev, Rusakov, Demichev, unidentified person, Schmitt, Mies, unidentified woman, Honecker and Grishin. Closeup shown of commemorative stone which bears the inscription:" A memorial will be erected here to Ernst Thaelmann, 1886-1944, outstanding figure of the German and international workers' movement and chairman of the Communist Party of Germany". Honecker, Mies, Schmitt and a Soviet worker who addressed the meeting are shown briefly at the meeting.

Demichev Address

LD051345 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1030 GMT 5 May 85

[Speech by Petr Nilovich Demichev at a meeting devoted to opening the memorial museum to German antifascists in Krasnogorsk, Moscow Oblast, on 5 May -- live or recorded]

[Text] The victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War had a decisive role in saving the world from the threat of Hitlerite slavery, in liberating the peoples -- including the German people -- from Nazi tyranny. We remember well, and give due recognition to the contribution made to the defeat of fascism by the states which formed the anti-Hiter coalition and by the participants in the resistance movement and the partisans in the countries occupied by Hitlerites.

We view with great respect the struggle of German Communists and other antifascists against Hitler's regime. We value highly their bravery and endurance. The sons and daughters of the Communist Party of Germany were the first to feel the blow of nazism. They fought selflessly in the underground movement, in prisons and concentration camps, in the ranks of international brigades, and abroad. Ernst Thelmann, the leader of the German Communists, warned even before the Nazis came to power that Hitler meant war. The German Communists were consistently and resolutely unmasking the criminal and manhating ideology of fascism, and the plans for a crusade against the Soviet Union, the first socialist country. When the aggression was launched, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Germany declared on 24 June 1941 that the joint victory of the Red Army and the oppressed peoples fighting for their national liberation will also be a victory for the German people. [applause].

Dear comrades: An eminent place in the struggle of German patriots against fascism belongs to the activities of the "Free Germany" national committee which was created on the initiative of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Germany here in Krasnogorsk in July 1943. Among its founders were many eminent figures in the German communist movement, including Wilhelm Pick, Walter Ulbricht, Anton Ackermann, Hermann Mattern, Wilhelm Florin, and the communist writers Erich Weisberg, Willi Breder, Joachim Becker, and Friedrich Wolf. This organization united professional revolutionaries, Communists, nonparty members, and people of various political views and persuasions, and became an important center of the antifascist movement, giving new impetus to it. The "Free Germany" movement united tens of thousands of Germans, former soldiers, both officers and generals, whose consciousness had until not long before been poisoned by Nazi propaganda. The participants in the "Free Germany" movement worked actively on the Soviet-German frontline, amid the Wehrmacht troops and the POW's. They helped their fellow countrymen to understand the just and liberating nature of the war being waged by the Soviet people and its Army.

Comrades, the German Communists and other antifascists managed to take advantage of the great opportunities being opened up as a result of the defeat of Hitler's fascism. They conducted consistent work for uprooting nazism and militarism, implemented revolutionary antifascist and democratic transformations in East Germany, and created the first peace-loving state of workers and peasants on German soil. The experience of history teaches us that it is necessary to fight against war well before it starts. That is why the CPSU Central Committee, giving expression to the peace-loving policy of our Soviet socialist state, is actively pursuing a constructive foreign policy and doing everything possible to prevent the arms race and curb the futile ambitions of imperialist forces trying to start a nuclear war. The museum of German antifascists, which is being opened today, throws light on the close combat cooperation between Soviet and German Communists and patriots by describing one of the outstanding chapters in the fight for victory and liberation. It will help educate the feelings of internationalism and friendship among peoples. It will serve the cause of peace and the cause of further strengthening our many-sided cooperation with the GDR. [applause]

Honecker Address

LD052123 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 5 May 85

[Speech by Erich Honecker at a meeting devoted to opening the memorial museum to German antifascists in Krasnogorsk, Moscow Oblast, on 5 May -- live or recorded; in German with superimposed Russian translation]

[Text] Dear Soviet comrades and friends: On the eve of 9 May, the 40th anniversary of the Soviet Union's victory over Hitlerite fascism in the Great Patriotic War, a tribute of profound respect is being paid to German antifascists here on Soviet soil a few kilometers from Moscow. This museum, a stirring symbol of internationalism, humanism, and German-Soviet friendship, is dedicated to their courageous and selfless struggle.

I have the great honor on this occasion of conveying to you, dear Soviet comrades, our closest comrades-in-arms, fraternal greetings and heartfelt gratitude from the Central Committee of the SED, the State Council, the Council of Ministers, and all the working people of the GDR.

The Soviet Union bore the main brunt of the war, with 20 million Soviet citizens giving their lives in the titanic struggle for the peaceful and happy future of the peoples and for the cause of socialism, freedom, democracy, and human dignity.

The victory over the Nazi regime delivered mankind from barbarism. Throughout the world, it brought about changes of historic significance. It also brought freedom to the German people, giving them opportunity to embark on a fundamentally new path.

Citizens of the GDR nurture deep sentiments of eternal gratitude to the Soviet people and its valiant army. [applause]

Dear friends and comrades, in the face of the incredible suffering and destruction that World War II, unleashed by Hitlerite fascism, inflicted on peoples, there is no task more important than preserving and maintaining a stable peace. The threat of a devastating nuclear war, which emanates from the imperialist policy of confrontation and arms buildup, gives this task even more urgency. For this, strengthening the international prestige of socialism and the unity and cohesion of our community is decisively significant.

The GDR totally and completely supports the far-reaching proposals for halting the arms race on earth and for preventing its extension to space that were recently put forward by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The meeting of top party and state leaders of the Warsaw Pact member-countries, held in the capital of People's Poland, voiced the common standpoint (?of striving) to redouble our efforts to maintain peace. The GDR will perform this task reliably. [applause] The present and future generations should be saved from the horror of war. Peace is a cherished hope of our two peoples, a mighty stimulus of their daily work, in the name of the flourishing of the cause of socialist construction and peoples' happiness.

DKP's Mies Address

LD051531 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1030 GMT 5 May 85

[Speech by Herbert Mies, chairman of the German Communist Party, DKP, at a meeting devoted to opening the memorial museum to German antifascists in Krasnogorsk, Moscow Oblast, on 5 May -- live or recorded; in German with superimposed Russian translation]

[Text] [Applause] At the time as the 40th anniversary of victory over Nazi fascism and liberation of peoples is being marked in the whole world, at the time when a bitter struggle is in progress in the FRG on the question of overcoming the fascist past, and at the time when in the course of U.S. President Reagan's state visit the substance and the spirit of the anti-Nazi coalition is being trampled, at that time a museum of the German antifascist resistance is being opened here and the date of the founding of the "Free Germany" national committee is being honored. This appears as something immeasurably greater than a simple event commemorating the events of the years gone by. For us, the FRG Communists, it is a call for ardent struggle under the slogans: "Fascism must never be repeated," "War must never be repeated," "No to hostility to the Soviet Union." Only a true peace and true friendship between peoples can ensure the future for our country, the FRG.

That is precisely why we declare that the FRG should not participate in the U.S."star wars" program. The Federal Republic should turn down the deployment of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles. The FRG should come out in favor of a constructive and successful conduct of the Geneva negotiations. Fascism and militarism must not be allowed to raise their heads again. Not revanchism but benefits of peaceful cooperation would be able to guarantee a peaceful future for our people. These are the aims for which the FRG Communists are struggling today. This museum calls on us to do everything to ensure peace for today and for the future. We are internationalists; we are for friendship between peoples. [applause]

SEW's Schmitt Address

LD051521 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1030 GMT 5 May 85

[Speech by Horst Schmitt, chairman of the Socialist Unity Party of West Berlin, SEW, at a meeting devoted to opening the memorial museum to German antifascists in Krasnogorsk, Moscow Oblast, on 5 May -- live or recorded; in German with superimposed Russian translation]

[Text] Special significance is lent to this event by the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism, a victory for life and peace on earth, as well as by the fact that the arms race policies of the Reagan administration make it necessary for everything to be done to consolidate peace and avert a nuclear catastrophe. That is the principal lesson of the great victory and liberation. We must struggle against a new war before it starts. That is why the SED of West Berlin is using all its energies to get an increasing number of peace supporters in our city, irrespective of their outlook and party allegiance, to make their personal contribution to the struggle for peace and detente. [applause]

Gorbachev Meets Honecker

PM061017 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 May 85 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Friendly Meeting"]

[Text] On 5 May, Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee met with the General Secretary of the SED Central Committee, President of the State Council of the GDR Erich Honecker, who is on a friendly visit in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

On behalf of the working people of the GDR, Erich Honecker cordially congratulated the Soviet people upon the 40th anniversary of victory in the Great Patriotic War. He stressed the decisive contribution made by the Soviet Union and its glorious Armed Forces to the rout of fascism and the liberation of the European peoples, including the German people, from Hitler's tyranny. The first workers and peasants state on German soil has it roots in this great victory. It has been and will be a true friend and reliable ally of the USSR and together with the other countries of the socialist community will spare no efforts in strengthening the positions of socialism and defending peace in Europe.

In an exchange of views on topical problems of the present international situation, both sides noted the prime importance in the present conditions of stopping the arms race on earth and preventing it from spreading to outer space. It was pointed out in this connection that the continuing deployment in the FRG of U.S. nuclear first-strike missiles and Bonn's actual accession to the U.S. plans in the field of the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative directly contradict its assurances to do everything possible so that the threat of a new war never again emanates from German soil. The security interests of European countries, including the FRG itself, require a rejection of militaristic and revanchist concepts in politics, full recognition of the political and territorial realities resulting from World War II and postwar development. This is the reliable road to strengthening trust in relations between states and to expanding good-neighborly cooperation. The USSR and the GDR resolutely oppose any concepts about the "German question being unsolved."

The leaders of the two fraternal parties studied the state and prospects for the development of relations between the USSR and the GDR. The mutual resolve was expressed to further perfect ties along the party, state, and public lines and interaction in the solution of economic tasks, especially along the most important directions of scientific and technological progress.

The conversation passed in an atmosphere of cordiality and complete unity.

Gorbachev Meets Mies

PM061031 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 May 85 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "M.S. Gorbachev's Meeting With Herbert Mies"]

[Text] Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, received Herbert Mies, chairman of the German Communist Party [DKP], in the Kremlin 5 May.

On behalf of the FRG Communists, Herbert Mies conveyed ardent congratulations to the Soviet people and the CPSU Central Committee on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism. He stressed that all progressive, truly patriotic forces of the country view the history making victory of the Soviet Union and its allies as an act of liberation of the peoples of Europe, including the German people, from fascist tyranny and are grateful to the Soviet people for carrying out that historic mission.

Mikhail Gorbachev expressed gratitude for the congratulations and highly evaluated the contribution of the German antifascists to the struggle against nazism and war. The Soviet people, he said, give due credit to the staunchness and courage of the German Communists, and their fidelity to national and international duty.

It was pointed out that both parties wish to work purposefully for the prevention of a new war, the danger of which has noticeably increased in recent years as a result of the policy of the aggressive circles of imperialism, above all U.S. imperialism imperialism. The CPSU and the DKP are unanimous in agreeing that for the sake of the interests of the present and future generations it is necessary to close outer space forever to any types of nuclear strike weapons, to immediately halt the buildup of the accumulated weapons arsenals on earth, and begin reducing them. The Communists are ready to exert every effort to attain these aims.

In the course of the meeting, the indestructible solidarity of the CPSU and the DKP and the striving of both parties for strengthening mutual trust and fruitful cooperation between the peoples of the USSR and the FRG were stressed.

The meeting was attended by Boris Ponomarev, alternate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Gorbachev Meets Schmitt

PM061033 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 May 85 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "M.S. Gorbachev's Meeting with Horst Schmitt"]

[Text] Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, received in the Kremlin 5 May Horst Schmitt, chairman of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany of West Berlin.

Horst Schmitt conveyed ardent congratulations from the West Berlin Communists to the Soviet people and the CPSU on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the rout of German fascism.

Mikhail Gorbachev pointed out that the memory of the past call upon all honest people of the world to stop the arms race and to embark on the path of disarmament and peaceful fruitful cooperation and strengthening mutual understanding. The USSR is not only ready for this, but persistently works for such a turn in developments.

The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee expressed solidarity with the selfless struggle of the West Berlin Communists for peace and social progress.

The meeting was attended by Boris Ponomarev, alternate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU.

Grishin, Honecker at Monument

LD052349 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 5 May 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Today in Moscow there was a meeting devoted to laying the foundation stone of a monument to an outstanding figure of the German and international communist and workers' movement, Ernst Thaelmann. The monument will be erected on the square named after him and will become a tribute of gratitude to that great patriot of his homeland, consistent internationalist and tried-and-tested leader of German Communists. The meeting was opened by Viktor Vasiliyevich Grishin.

[Begin Grishin video recording] The entire heroic life of Ernst Thaelmann was indissolubly linked with the revolutionary and communist movement in Germany. In 1925 Ernst Teaelmann became chairman of the German Communist Party, which, in terms of its strength and influence, was at that time the prime communist party in the capitalist world. Its enormous prestige among the German battles of the revolutionaries were devoted wholly to the cause of forming and strengthening the German Communist Party as a Marxist-Leninist party and turning it into a strong and cohesive party of German Communists with close links with the masses.

In the years when the threat of a fascist coup was hanging over the country, there was born the famous slogan of Thaelmann's party, Rotfront, which became the combat motto of Communists and antifascist and democratic organizations in Europe and called on the working class and all working people to be highly vigilant and united in action in the struggle against the blackest forces of reaction and obscurantism.

The cause of Thaelmann is now being continued by the Communists of the SED, the DKP, and the SEW. On German soil where Marx and Engels lived there arose the first state of workers and peasants, the GDR. It is significant that the laying of the foundation-stone of the monument to Ernst Thaelmann and the naming of this square after him are taking place on the eve of the glorious 40th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the 1941-45 Great Patriotic War.

Soviet people are meeting the national holiday in an atmosphere of great labor and political upsurge and monolithic cohesion around the Communist Party. The tasks of the 11th 5-Year Plan are being successfully fulfilled. The Soviet people have achieved major successes in all sections of economic and cultural construction. [end recording]

The cover is taken off the foundation-stone. The monument to Ernst Thaelmann, which is being built in accordance with a decree by the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers, will be set up here. The floor is given to Comrade Honecker:

[Begin Honecker video recording, speaking in German with superimposed Russian translation] It is with great joy that we are taking part today in this large meeting in a square in Moscow bearing the name of our unforgettable comrade, Ernst Thaelmann. On this square a monument will be built to an outstanding son of the German working class, leader of the German Communist Party, and ardent internationalist.

Today, on the eve of the 40th anniversary of the victory by the glorious Soviet Army over Hitlerite fascism and the liberation of the German people, the foundation-stone of a monument is being laid here. This exciting event inspires a feeling of pride and confidence in the citizens of the GDR, and strengthens the bonds of fraternal unity, indestructible friendship, and militant alliance between the CPSU and the SED, the USSR and the GDR. Permit me, on behalf of the SED Central Committee, on behalf of the 2.2 million Communists and all the people of the GDR, to cordially thank you, all Muscovites and all the great Soviet people. [applause]

Ernst Thaelman personified purposefulness, steadfastness and human grandeur. They matured and strengthened in service to the brightest ideals of the revolutionary German workers' movement and were passed on to a countless pleiad of like-minded people. The fascists brutally killed Ernst Thaelman but his ideas and deeds live on. What he strove toward and fought for has become reality. It can be said with full justification today that the GDR is fulfilling his behest. By constantly deepening and expanding friendship and close cooperation with the Soviet Union, we are consolidating close cooperation with the Soviet Union, we are consolidating the foundation of a happy present and future for our people. This friendship is the determining characteristic of the GDR's state policy. Long ago it became the heartfelt behest of our country's citizens.

It was with great interest and approval that we acquainted ourselves with the material of the CPSU Central Committee April Plenum, which adopted the decision to convene the 27th congress. This congress will be a significant event in the life of the Soviet people and have a great effect on the countries of the socialist community and on the course of events in the whole world. It can already be said with certainty today that it will provide a new, powerful impulse to the further construction of socialism and the struggle for peace. I wish you, dear friends and comrades, great successes in the work in preparing for the 27th CPSU Congress for the benefit of the Soviet people [applause] [end recording]

Herbert Mies speaking:

[Begin Mies video recording, speaking in German with superimposed Russian translation] Faithful and unbending, strong in character and convinced of our cause's victory -- in this way and this way alone can we become the creators of our fate and fulfill our revolutionary debt, accomplish the great historic mission given to us and make our contribution to final victory of genuine socialism. I remember these words of Ernst Thaelmann from his last letter from the fascist torture-chamber at this moment when here in Moscow, in the very heart of the Soviet Union, great tribute is being paid to the memory of the great leader of the German working class.

On behalf of all the Communists of the FRG a heartfelt thank you to the Soviet Union, the country in which real socialism definitively vanquished, and to the CPSU for such a moving celebration of the memory of Ernst Thaelmann. May this square and future monument on it always embody what Ernst Thaelmann expected of every true Communist: ardent solidarity with the first workers' and peasant state in the histry of mankind, fidelity and unbendingness, strength of character and confidence in the victory of our struggle for the realization of our great historic mission and the struggle for peace and progress. [applause] [end recording]

Then Horst Schmitt spoke. To honor the memory of Thaelmann, he said, means for us today mobilizing with all our energy the masses in the struggle for peace and against the policy of confrontation and the arms race being pursued by the most aggressive circles of imperialism. To honor the memory of Thaelmann means for us today strengthening the party in the spirit of the principles of Marxism-Leninism, enhancing its combat strength and above all winning over the young people to the ideals of the workers' movement. To fulfill Thaelmann's behests means for us to be faithful to proletarian internationalism and the indissoluble combat alliance with the CPSU and the country of Lenin.

Comrade Yatskov, engine-driver at the Ilich Locomitive Depot and Hero of Socialist Labor, spoke at the meeting:

[Begin Yatskov video recording] Comrades, the working people of the capital received with great satisfaction the news that a monument was to be built in Moscow to Ernst Thaelmann, an outstanding figure of the German and international workers' movement and a faithful friend to the country of soviets and the party of Lenin. The life of Ernest Thaelmann serves as a bright example of the indefatigable fight for the interests of the proletariat and the cause of the working people. In a few days' time the whole of progressive mankind marks the 40th anniversary of the rout of Hitlerite fascism. Muscovites, like all Soviet people, are meeting the great victory holiday in an atmosphere of monolithic cohesion around their own Communist Party and a great political and labor upsurge and with successes in communist creation. [applause] [end recording]

The meeting was convincing testimony to the inviolable friendship and fraternal solidarity between the CPSU and the SED and the working people of the USSR and the GDR, and their firm resolve to continue fighting tirelessly for the triumph of the cause of peace and communism, for which Ernst Thaelmann gave his heroic life. The Internationale rang out over the square. Flowers were laid on the place of the monument's foundation stone.

Present at the meeting were Comrades Ponomarev, Rusakov, and other officials.

Honecker Departs 5 May

LD051425 Moscow TASS in English 1410 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 5 TASS -- The General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, President of the State Council of the GDR Erich Honecker left the Soviet Union today. He was staying here on a friendly visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee and the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

At the airport in Moscow Erich Honecker was seen off by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Secretary of the Moscow City CPSU Committee Viktor Grishin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the USSR Central Committee, Minister of Culture of the USSR Petr Demichev, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Konstantin Rusakov and other officials.

DEMICHEV-LED DELEGATION ARRIVES IN BERLIN 6 MAY

LD060922 Moscow TASS in English 0911 GMT 6 May 85

[Text] Berlin May 6 TASS -- A party and government delegation of the USSR arrived in Berlin today at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the Government of the GDR. The delegation led by alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Culture of the USSR Petr Demichev will participate in celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the liberation of the German people from fascism.

GDR STATEMENT ENDORSES WARSAW PACT EXTENSION

LD031048 Moscow TASS in English 1020 GMT 3 May 85

[Text] Berlin May 3 TASS -- The meeting of the top party and state leaders of the Warsaw Treaty member-states is of great significance for further strengthening the unity and cohesion of the states of the socialist community, says the joint statement issued here by the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the GDR Council of Ministers.

The statement stresses that the signing of the protocol on extending the Warsaw Treaty demonstrates the unshakeable character of this alliance. A further all-round strengthening of this alliance is necessary as long as the belligerent forces of imperialism continue stepping up the arms race, are drawing up every new aggressive doctrines and threatening peace.

The Warsaw Treaty organization is an alliance, which does not threaten anybody. It serves the cause of peace. Over the 30 years of its existence, it has proved to be reliably and unshakeably standing guard over the revolutionary gains of the socialist states, serving as a guarantee that Europe lives in peace the longest ever period in its history. The coordinated foreign policy of the Warsaw Treaty member-states firmly stands in the way of implementation of the dangerous plans by the aggressive forces of imperialism. The military-strategic parity, which has been achieved above all due to the efforts of the Soviet Union, is of a history-making significance and is the necessary prerequisite of peace and security.

The meeting in Warsaw, the statement says, has been held on the eve of the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitler fascism. A decisive contribution to this victory was made by the USSR. The lessons of the Second World War shall not be forgotten, as they have not lost their significance in this day, too. The socialist states declared, as before, that it is necessary to struggle against war, before it breaks out.

The participants in the Warsaw meeting have reiterated the striving of the countries of the socialist community for peace, their determination to search by joint efforts for ways to overcome the dangers of nuclear war. The race of arms on earth, above all of nuclear arms, should be ended. Neither can the implementation of the plans of the USA for turning outer space into a source of a new war danger be allowed.

The Warsaw Treaty countries again declare for returning to detente and cooperation in the international arena. The USSR's recent proposals give a real chance for achieving a turn for the better in international affairs. These proposals have been unanimously supported by all participants in the meeting. Now it is necessary that the NATO countries should give a constructive answer to these proposals as at stake is mankind's very existence.

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the GDR Council of Ministers declare, the statement says, that the GDR will, as before, meet its commitments within the framework of the Warsaw Treaty.

NEW TIMES PROFILES NEW ALBANIAN PARTY CHIEF

PM031355 Moscow NEW TIMES in English No 17, Apr 85 p 25

[Unattributed "People in The News" article: "Ramiz Alia"]

[Text] Ramiz Alia, the new First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Albanian Workers Party and president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, was born on October 18, 1925, in the city of Shkoder. A member of the Albanian Workers Party since 1943, he took part in the national liberation struggle as a member of the political department of the Seventh Strike Brigade and the Second Division, and, later, as commissar of the Fifth Division.

In 1944-49 he was a member of the Secretariat, and then General Secretary, of the Albanian Union of Anti-Fascist Youth. In 1949-55, he served as First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Union of Albanian Working Youth, and in 1948 became a member of the Central Committee of the Albanian Workers party.

In 1955-58, Ramiz Alia was Minister of Education and Culture, and in 1958-60, head of the propaganda and agitation department of the AWP Central Committee. In 1956 he became an alternate member of the Political Bureau of the AWP Central Committee and in September 1960 was appointed Central Committee Secretary. In February 1961 he was made a full member of the Political Bureau.

In 1950, Ramiz Alia was appointed a member, and in September 1967 Deputy Chairman, of the General Council of the Albanian Democratic Front. Since 1950 he has been a deputy to the People's Assembly, and in November 1982 took over as President of the Presidium of the People's Assembly.

At the 11th plenary meeting of the AWP Central Committee earlier this month Ramiz Alia was elected First Secretary of the Albanian Workers Party.

SOLIDARITY ACTIVISTS SENTENCED IN WARSAW

LD031433 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1055 GMT 3 May 85

[Text] Warsaw, 3 May (TASS) -- According to PAP agency, the misdemeanor court of the capital's Zoliborz region examined under summary procedure the question of the punishment of persons who violated public order on 1 May, this year. Kuron and Jaworski, among others, were sentenced to 3 months' detention.

DEMONSTRATIONS HELD IN SPAIN AGAINST REAGAN VISIT

LD052017 Moscow TASS in English 1725 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] Madrid May 5 TASS -- TASS correspondent Boris Petrov reports:

A powerful wave of demonstrations against the official visit of U.S. President Ronald Reagan to Madrid has swept Spain today. Mammoth actions have been held in Madrid, Valencia, Bilbao, Barcelona and other cities and autonomous regions. The demonstrators carried posters condemning the foreign policy of the Reagan administration, the U.S. intrigues against Nicaragua, declaring for dismantling U.S. military bases in Spain's territory and for the withdrawal of Spain from NATO.

According to the returns of the public opinion poll published by the Madrid newspaper EL PAIS today, 74 percent of Spaniards believe that the foreign policy of the Reagan administration is directed against general peace.

On the eve of the American President's visit, more than 20 Spanish left-wing parties and democratic organizations have published an open letter stressing that the aim of the visit is to ensure Spain's further participation in the Atlantic alliance, to hamper the holding in the country of a referendum on the problem of Spain's membership in NATO. Spain's participation in the North-Atlantic Treaty Organization, the document stresses, is in conflict with the national interests of Spain, the cause of peace, international detente and disarmament.

WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION MAY MOVE AWAY FROM NATO

LD292258 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 28 Apr 85

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Aleksandr Bovin]

[Text] Let us turn, comrades, to the Western European Union [WEU]. The revival of interest in it is the result of the complex, contradictory, and fluid relations between the United States and West Europe. The constant conflicts, collisions, and friction between them are just as persistent as their constant cooperation. In general, the Americans do not really stand on ceremony with their allies. Not so long ago Hans-Jochen Vogel, chairman of the SDP faction in the Bundestag, said that the U.S. President treats his allies like vassals. Disagreeing with Vogel is the Washington correspondent of FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU, (?Lutz Krusche), who wrote in his newspaper, quote: Reagan does not treat his allies like vassals. He treats them just like Americans, because he prefers to assess other nations according to American standards, unquote. The correspondent explains, quote: When Reagan speaks about Nicaragua, his words and arguments are the same as those he would use if he were talking about one of the American states -- not at all about a vassal state, but just about a fully integrated federal state. He speaks about the elections in El Salvador in exactly the same tone that he used to speak of the election of the governor of Illinois, for example, unquote. Well, here of course he is slightly overdoing it; there is an element of exaggeration, but it is done to underscore the main idea. For the U.S. leadership, and for the average American, too, West Europe really is the Old World, something backward, almost antiquated -- in a word, the civilization of yesterday.

Such moods are unfortunately also shared by certain representatives of West Europe. Here, for example, is what FRG Vice Chancellor Hans-Dietrich Genscher says; I will read an excerpt from an article by him: Everyone who visits the United States notices a certain movitation, based on confidence and optimism, and sees the pciture of a society based on the development of the latest technology and opening up unprecedented opportunities beyond one's wildest dreams.

Genscher goes on to add: When one returns home, to West Europe, one is struck by the whining pessimism of our civilization. The ecological ideologists and those of like mind -- the Greens have obviously irritated Genscher considerably -- preach fear of technical development and fear of the future.

Well, if one approaches the matter like this, of course the Americans can hardly object. However, most West Europeans believe, all the same, that it is still too early to write West Europe off the accounts of the world economy and world politics. They justly believe that many of West Europe's current difficulties are due to its dependence on the United States the U.S. egotistical, selfish policy. Hence the more or less open attempts by West Europe to talk to the United States in more independent and self-confident tones, to increase West Europe's importance in transatlantic relations, and to make Washington take account of its specific interests. This touches on all fields of cooperation, including the military-political field, This is just where the asymmetry in the relationship is particularly obvious. As one American scientist wrote, although there are U.S. troops on the Rhine, there are no European troops on the Rio Grande to safeguard the security of the United States. So West Europe is beginning to seek ways of reducing its dependence on the United States in the fields of security and defense. Of course, here we enter a phantom world, a world of illusion, where real policy is determined by a Soviet threat that is far from real. Nevertheless, they think in these terms in West Europe, and so they have recalled the WEU, because the WEU is the only multilateral political structure in West Europe whose charter provides for the possibility of military cooperation, in this case cooperation without the Americans, which is the most important thing. Officially, the reanimation of the WEU is explained as a desire to strengthen West European support for NATO, and that is the truth, but not the whole truth. This is why the Americans have recently become nervous. The British FINANCIAL TIMES reported recently that Richard Burt, U.S. assistant secretary of state, had sent a letter to the seven members of the WEU. In this letter, the allies are warned that they should not coordinate their position regarding the problem of arms control outside the framework of NATO. This is what worries the Americans -- that the West Europeans are beginning to come to an agreement behind their backs, outside the framework of NATO.

The situation has become more acute in connection with the so-called "star wars" program, which has still further ensnared the allies. With this Strategic Defense Initiative, the Americans are exerting pressure on them and promising great economical and technological benefits if they join in this initiative. The allies, in general, are wavering -- to various degrees, true, but wavering. They are dismayed that the implementation of the Strategic Defense Initiative could break up the talks on disarmament; they are also dismayed that this, as it were, stellar scientific and technical cooperation between the United States and West Europe could lead to a widening technological gap and an increasing brain drain across the ocean.

Even Chancellor Kohl, who has become accustomed to bowing and scraping to Washington, cautioned against cooperation with the Americans becoming, as he said, a one-way street in a technological sense. French Defense Minister Charles Hernu gave a far more definite view on this subject. He said: It is quite unnecessary for the Americans to draw us into a kind of economic super-NATO under the pretext that they are interested in our industry, our machinery, our technology, and, in the final analysis, our minds.

The French proposed the so-called Euroeka project to the West Europeans -- that is, the combining of their efforts in response to the technological challenge from across the ocean. This project envisages the coordination of actions not in military areas but in the civil spheres of machinery and technology.

Overall, the clarification of relations continues, but the ministers who gathered in Bonn for the session of the WEU Council were unable to formulate a common response to the Americans on the subject of joint preparations for star wars. The communique of the council used this formulation, quote: The ministers agreed on the continuation of their joint consultations in order to work out a reaction by their governments which is as coordinated as possible to the proposal of the United States that they take part in a research program concerning strategic defense, unquote. What a fog! I think that Washington could quite possibly win in this round, nonetheless. However, resistance continues on this side of the ocean. It is growing and will grow all the more intensively, the more the influence brought to bear on the situation by the myth of the so-called Soviet threat wanes.

ITALIAN CP LEADER CITED ON GENEVA TALKS

LD292024 Moscow TASS in English 1901 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] Rome April 29 TASS -- We consider as very important the moratorium till November this year on deployment of Soviet medium-range missiles, which was recently proclaimed by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev, and also the USSR's proposals in the sphere of space armaments. This was stated by General Secretary of the Italian Communist Party Alessandro Natta at a press conference that has been held here.

The Italian Communist Party, he said, welcomed the beginning of Soviet-American negotiations in Geneva on space and nuclear armaments. Of special significance, in our opinion, was the agreement, that was reached between Andrey Gromyko and George Shultz, on discussing all questions in close connection. But no sooner had the Geneva negotiations begun as one right away witnessed an obvious contradiction between that accord and the conduct of the United States which continues research work within the framework of so called "Strategic Defence Initiative". That immediately negatively affected the negotiations.

General Secretary of the Italian Communist Party Natta stressed that the Communist Party was firmly against the U.S. Administration's "star wars" plans. Some people assert, he said, that what is at issue so far is the research stage but it is difficult to imagine that after it is completed this weapon will not be produced. It is also wrong to assert that creation of "the protective shield" in outer space would lead to destruction of nuclear weapons. On the contrary, a new spur will be given to the nuclear arms race. The Soviet Union will not sit idle handed and will take reply steps, and that has already been declared by the USSR. Therefore, we believe that the Italian Government should not join that initiative, said A. Natta.

He paid much attention to the coming May 12 elections in Italy to regional, provincial and municipal bodies of power. In this connection A. Natta most firmly denounced the U.S. President's recent attempt to grossly interfere into Italy's internal affairs. In his recent interview Ronald Reagan overtly stated that the United States is against Communists' winning at the elections and against possible consequent changes in the alignment of forces nationally in favour of the Communist Party. Reagan should attend to his deeds. He has enough problems in his own country. Problems of freedom, equality, observance of rights. It is better for him to attend to these problems and he should not care for freedom in Italy," said A. Natta.

ETHIOPIA DENIES U.S. CLAIMS OF FORCED EVACUATIONS

LD041634 Moscow TASS in English 1621 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Addis Ababa May 4 TASS -- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia has exposed another propaganda trick of the U.S. Administration aimed at discrediting efforts of the Ethiopian Government to overcome difficulties resulting from a drought that affected the country. A statement issued by the ministry here denies allegations of high-ranking White House officials about some "forced evacuation" of tens of thousands of people from Ethiopian Gondar Province. Conjectures of the U.S. Administration, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia says in its statement, cannot be regarded in any other way than an attempt to use any pretext to distort and undermine efforts of the revolutionary government to surmount the consequences of the natural calamity.

ETHIOPIAN OFFICIAL HAILS SOCIALIST DROUGHT AID

PM030959 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 May 85 First Edition p 4

[Own correspondent A. Serbin report: "Selfless Aid From Friends"]

[Text] Addis Ababa, 2 May -- (Dauit Wolde-Giorgis), member of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee, has given a high assessment of the socialist countries' actions in giving aid to the drought victims in Ethiopia. At a meeting with representatives of the socialist countries' embassies he expressed gratitude for the granting of aviation facilities which are being used to deliver food to disaster areas and for the sending of medical workers and other aid. (Dauit Wolde-Giorgis) noted that the program elaborated by the WPE and the Ethiopian Government for combating the drought is being fulfilled.

IMF SEEKS TO 'PRESSURE' NIGERIA OVER LOAN

LD060958 Moscow TASS in English 0847 GMT 6 May 85

[Text] Lagos May 6 TASS -- TASS correspondent Yuriy Rodionov reports:

The television speech which was made in Enugu by commercial attache of the U.S. Embassy in Lagos E. Tangalos, was qualified here as an attempt of gross pressure on Nigeria's Government. The U.S. diplomat threatened Nigeria in no uncertain terms with "catastrophic consequences" if it refuses to obey the demands of the International Monetary Fund. The International Monetary Fund ruled by American capital is trying to impose upon Nigeria fettering terms of a loan, it insists on reduction of allocations for social needs, devaluation of the national currency, freedom of action for foreign corporations. The "recommendations" by the American official are viewed as a new step in escalating Western pressure on Nigeria. In the course of negotiations with the International Monetary Fund the Nigerian side invariably feels growing pressure on the part of the Western financial circles. The leaders of the republic turn down the terms being imposed by the International Monetary Fund, they are right to consider that these terms will lead to a further decline in the economy which was seriously undermined in the years of the rule of the corrupted regime which was overthrown. As is noted by specialists, compliance with the fund's demands will inevitably undermine the government's efforts aimed at making the country self-sufficient in food, will worsen the position of the working people. It should be noted, it is stressed here, that the United States openly joined in the blackmail campaign. The government shall not give political and economic independence of Nigeria in pawn in exchange for a loan, said Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Military Council of the Republic Tunde Idiagbon, a few days ago. The terms, suggested by the fund, will lead to economic and political chaos in the country, he said.

NICARAGUA ISSUES STATEMENT ON U.S. SANCTIONS

LD051127 Moscow TASS in English 1045 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] Managua May 5 TASS -- The U.S. boycott with regard to Nicaragua is a most flagrant violation of elementary international norms, juridical and economic laws. It constitutes yet another step along the lines of Washington's preparation of a direct military intervention against the Republic, says a statement issued by the national leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front and the revolutionary Government of Nicaragua.

The Nicaraguan people is stating that it categorically and resolutely rejects Reagan's ultimatum. We shall never sell our dignity and waive our principles, We shall never betray the heroic struggle for the independence of the motherland, the struggle which generations of Nicaraguans have been waging for decades, the statement points out.

The U.S. Government, by presenting an ultimatum to the Sandinista revolution, is trying to assume a right to dictate its imperial terms to it by means of brute force. The U.S. Government lays claims to determining Nicaragua's internal life, to regulating Nicaragua's international relations as it thinks fit and to compiling a list of those who should be Nicaragua's friend and who should be an enemy. Nicaragua is a developing country with limited material and military resources. However, it will never agree to the U.S. demands and will not accept disgraceful peace terms.

The statement points out that the new escalation of the U.S. aggression is directed against each resident of the country -- from peasant to private entrepreneur. The trade and economic blockade is a blow on the entire nation and is "blind vengeance" upon the Sandinista revolution. The blockade is directed towards destruction, towards shattering the Nicaraguans' dream of a better life.

However, our revolution will withstand the blow, the statement stresses. In the face of a new aggression the Nicaraguans will muster all energies and self-discipline and will hold out at this difficult historical stage.

The national leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front and the revolutionary government urged the Nicaraguan people to raise productivity of labour, to strengthen discipline and revolutionary consciousness, and to show examples of heroism both on the front of struggle against the counter-revolutionary Somocista bands and in work.

The Nicaraguan Government will look for new markets for its export commodities which are banned from being imported into the USA. The Nicaraguan Government intends to proceed along the lines of diversification of foreign trade and reasonable attitude towards the import of goods which are in short supply. In these difficult conditions Nicaraguan society is faced with a responsibile task of using to the maximum the internal reserves, and using sparingly raw materials, electric power and other resources.

The USA, having taken the course towards destruction of the Sandinista people's revolution, is fearing its example to other Latin American countries which struggle for independence, and for the right to self-determination and national dignity. This is why the Reagan administration seeks to isolate the revolution.

We are calling upon the peoples and governments of Latin American countries not to allow the Sandinista revolution to remain in isolation, which is counted upon by the Reagan administration which nurtures criminal plans aimed at destroying the revolution.

At this hour of trial all countries and peoples of Latin America should unite and issue a resolute rebuff to Washington's interventionist designs.

The Nicaraguan Government has again stated its support for the Contadora Group's peace efforts which are the alternative to a military solution to the Central American crisis, the solution which the U.S. leaders adhere to. Nicaragua, the statement points out, is ready to immediately sign the act of peace and cooperation in Central America, which has been worked out by the Contadora Group, and to implement it strictly.

The national leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front and the revolutionary government called on all countries of the world to condemn the U.S. Administration's imperial policy with regard to Nicaragua and to make Washington observe international laws and principles.

Calls for Security Council Session

LD040605 Moscow TASS in English 0556 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Managua May 4 TASS -- The Nicaraguan Government has decided to turn to the U.N. Security Council with a request for an urgent convocation of an emergency Security Council session in connection with the economic and trade sanctions announced by the Reagan administration. As is pointed out in the statement by the government, the fresh aggressive actions of the United States against sovereign Nicaragua are a threat to peace in the region and undermine the efforts of the Contadora Group directed at a political settlement of the Central American crisis.

Simultaneously the government put forward the proposal that this question be discussed at a meeting of the Coordination Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement.

CUBAN MILITARY ADVISERS DEPART NICARAGUA

LD031259 Moscow TASS in English 1237 GMT 3 May 85

[Text] Managua May 3 TASS -- Hundreds of Nicaraguans gathered at the "Augusto Cesar Sandino" Airport to give a warm send-off to a group of Cuban military advisers who leave for home. They have discharged their internationalist duty with honour and rendered assistance to the revolutionary republic in the building of its Armed Forces and in the defence of national sovereignty in the face of U.S. aggressive intrigues.

Speaking at the ceremony to see off the Cuban advisers, Humberto Ortega, member of the national leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front, Nicaraguan minister of defence, said that the measure should serve the development of the Contadora process towards a political settlement of the Central American crisis.

However, the Reagan administration, unlike Nicaragua, shows increasing haughtiness and aggressiveness. The Washington-declared economic and trade sanctions with regard to the Sandinista people's revolution are part and parcel of the U.S. global interventionist policy, the minister pointed out. We regard the economic blockade of Nicaragua as a dangerous step towards creating political conditions for giving greater scope to military escalation in Central America.

Humberto Ortega firmly condemned the policy of blackmail and threats to which the U.S. Government resorts in attempts to break the will of the Nicaraguan people.

In connection with the imposition of the trade and economic embargoes, Washington made it clear that it will give up the anti-Nicaraguan sanctions if the Government of Nicaragua breaks off its contacts with Cuba and the Soviet Union, he stated.

Nicaragua, the defence minister emphasized, will never agree to the USA's determining the character of Nicaragua's international relations. Our government will continue to maintain contacts with Cuba and the Soviet Union which serve as an example of justice and nobleness.

ORTEGA-LED DELEGATION ARRIVES IN BUDAPEST

LD041322 Moscow TASS in English 1211 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Budapest May 4 TASS -- A Nicaraguan delegation led by Daniel Ortega, president of Nicaragua and a member of the national leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front, arrived in Budapest today for a working visit at the invitation of Pal Losonczi, president of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic.

CPSU DELEGATION STUDIES AGRICULTURE IN CUBA

PM031036 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Apr 85 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Interparty Ties"]

[Text] In accordance with the plan for interparty ties between the CPSU and the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], a delegation of CPSU party workers headed by I.K. Kapustyan, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture and Food Industry Department, was in the Republic of Cuba 19-28 April. It exchanged experience in the party leadership of work to enhance the efficiency of agricultural production. The delegation was received by J. Rizo, member of the PCC Central Committee Secretariat.

ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES RELATIONS

LD041956 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 4 May 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Our Latin American correspondent Igor Goranskiy met Dante Caputo, the Argentine foreign minister, in Buenos Aires, and asked him to speak about the development of Soviet-Argentine relations:

[Video shows Caputo, speaking in Spanish with superimposed Russian translation by Goranskiy] I think that these relations are developing completely satisfactorily, particularly in the period when the constitutional government of President Alfonsin began its work. Our trade links are expanding. Talks are also being conducted between us on issues of international policy. A system of reciprocal consultations has been set up. This became apparent once again during the latest session of the UN General Assembly. To put it briefly, I must say that our relations are very good, and we hope that they will continue to develop.

We support the constructive initiatives of the Soviet Union directed towards the strengthening of peace. We consider that a nuclear catastrophe would affect all countries of the world, and therefore active participation is necessary in the resolution of the problems of disarmament, the halting of the nuclear arms race. This is why the theme of protecting peace is central to the international policy of our country.

GORBACHEV ADDRESSES VETERANS' MEETING IN MOSCOW

PM061232 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 May 85 First Edition pp 1-2

[TASS report: "Loyalty to Lenin's Banner"]

[Text] The feat of arms and of labor of Soviet people who defended their socialist homeland against the Hitlerite invasion, and who saved the peoples of Europe from fascist enslavement will never grow dim. On the eve of the 40th anniversary of the historic victory the Soviet people and the Communist Party honor the courageous men of the front line and partisans of the Great Patriotic War, the selfless fighters of the labor front, the heroic women, and all those who stood their ground during the hard times of military trial and triumphed; they honor those who, having returned to peaceful life, multiplied the glory of their own fatherland.

Thousands of war and labor veterans came to Moscow from all parts of the country in order to take part in the celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War. A large group of them was invited to the CPSU Central Committee on 5 May. A meeting took place there between Comrades Gorbachev, Ligachev, Romanov, Ryzhkov, Dolgikh, Ponomarev, Sokolov, Kapitonov, and Nikonov and the veterans.

Opening the meeting, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, cordially greeted the comrades who had been invited in the occasion of the great holiday, and stressed thatthe party and the state always remember and will remember the glorious deeds of the veterans and their contribution to the victory over the enemy.

The participants in the Great Patriotic War and the workers of the rear then described their life and work and shared their thoughts on the things that disturb and concern them.

Speeches were made at the meeting by Colonel General Zheltov, chairman of the Soviet Committee of War Veterans and Hero of the Soviet Union; Popova, former commander of a squadron of the Women's Air Force Regiment, currently chairman of the commission of the Soviet Committee of War Veterans for Work Among Schoolchildren and Hero of the Soviet Union; Professor (Klokov), former commissar of the Suvorov partisans' brigade, currently head of department at the Institute of History of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian SSR and Hero of the Soviet Union; Semenov, former director of the Volgograd Tractor Works, holder of a personal pension and Hero of Socialist Labor; Marshal of Aviation and Three Times Hero of the Soviet Union Pokryshkin; Retired Senior Lieutenant Bondarenko, holder in full of the Order of Glory; Retired Rear Admiral (Kopnov), chairman of the Joint Council of War Veterans of the Navy in Leningrad; Retired Colonel (Denisenko), participant in the 1945 victory parade, senior engineer at the Gomel Electrical Apparatus Works and Hero of the Soviet Union; Samson, former commander of a partisans' brigade, member of the Soviet Committee of War Veterans, and Hero of the Soviet Union; Former Private Balashov, currently press worker in Uralsk, holder of the Order of Glory in three degrees; Major General Kazaryan, former commander of a tank battalion, currently military commissar of the Armenian SSR, and Hero of the Soviet Union.

The veterans spoke of the heroism and courage displayed by Soviet people at the front and at the rear. Recalling the past, the participants in the meeting said that they live with thoughts and deeds concerning the present day and the future of the Soviet homeland. They support with all their hearts the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee plenums, which took place this March and April, aimed at further strengthening the country's economic and defensive might, at improving the well-being of the working people and at preserving peace.

The veterans received with satisfaction the party's measures to strengthen discipline, the level of organization and order, to intensify the ideological hardening of Soviet people. They gave assurances that the party and its Central Committee can always rely on them. A leitmotiv in the veterans' speeches was the thought that it is necessary to hand over more actively to the rising generation the life experience of their elders, to bring up young people in the spirit of class consciousness, Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism, of loyalty to one's duty and of love for the homeland.

In conclusion Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev made a speech. On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee secretaries he expressed deep satisfaction with this meeting.

The party Central Committee, Mikhail Sergeyevich said, decided to invite you, veterans of war and labor, in order to express to you words of heartfelt gratitude, to congratulate you on the great holiday, to talk about the things that disturb and concern those who took part in the war and the workers of the rear, and to consult you on a number of issues.

The very important discussion that has taken place here, a discussion rich in content, was addressed both to our heroic past and to today's affairs. It could not be otherwise, for victory is not just history but the present day. Everything that we have has two ways of being reckoned: The first began from the October Revolution; the second from the day of victory. People may say that it is a long time since the war became a part of history, and ask whether it is worth returning again and again to events of those years and recalling the things that are linked with them. Of course it is worth doing so. More than that it is vitally necessary to do so, both for us and for all mankind. Yes, the war itself has receded into the past, but the immortal patriotic and internationalist feat of the servicemen of our army, of the partisans, of the workers of the rear who won a historic victory under the party's leadership will never be forgotten.

Now decades later we, as it were, once more interpret the causes of the war and the moral and political sources of our victory, and draw from the events of the past serious conclusions about how to avoid war in the lifetime of this and future generations. There can be no argument: The outcome of the war was decided principally on the battlefields by force of arms, but the main point is in whose hands the weapons were. In the final analysis it was the loyalty of the Soviet people to the socialist motherland and the Leninist banner, and fraternal friendship of peoples that was victorious. The comrades have said correctly here: These are the things that make us strong today, too.

The veterans again demonstrated their lofty patriotic spirit and truly Soviet character in performing one other great feat: They raised the country out of the ruins and did everything to make our socialist power mightier and more beautiful. Yet people predicted that it would take us decades to heal the terrible wounds inflicted by the war.

For people of my generation those days, when the front-line soldiers were returning home, yearning for peaceful labor, are unforgettable. They did not demand any kind of privilege for themselves; they worked where they were most needed by the country. The very words "front-line soldier" were pronounced, and still are pronounced, by the people with special respectfulness and a feeling of gratitude. Front-line soldiers and veterans remain in the ranks, always at the front line. All that has been said applies equally to those who worked on the home front and to the veterans of labor of those hard but glorious war years.

Today, too, dear comrade veterans, the party is firmly counting on you, on your knowledge and experience, on your high authority in the labor collectives, and on your devotion to the great cause of socialism, the cause you defended and saved in the battles of the fronts of the Great Patriotic War.

Our society is on the threshold of qualitative change for the better in all spheres of life, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev continued. In the new 5-year plan period major measures must be implemented to move the national economy on to the lines of intensive development. Implementation will be carried out on wide scales of a renewal of the technical base of industry, mastering of the most progressive technologies, the devising and ubiquitous introduction of a new effective economic mechanism. All this should ensure us a spurt in labor productivity and accelerate the country's socio-economic development. It is these tasks that were put forward by the CPSU Central Committee April Plenum at which, as you all well know, a decision was taken to convene the next, 27th, CPSU Congress and to mount and preparations for this major event in the life of the party and people.

It was very pleasant for all of us today to hear of your warm support for everything that is now being done on the initiative of the Central Committee, the Soviet Government, to accelerate our country's socioeconomic development, in order to scale successfully new heights in the economy, culture, and in the implementation of the social program.

It is clear what a tremendous responsibility rests on the party organizations, on each Communist, and primarily the leader-communist [kommunist-rukovoditel] for strict implementation of the plenum decisions.

Our continual concern is the ideological-moral tempering of all generations of Soviet people, and above all youth entering independent life. Here no one will be able to contribute as much as you. The invaluable experience of the veterans, their glorious traditions, must be handed to the new generations of Soviet people. It is in this, comrades, if we are to speak at the highest political level, that today the main civic duty of veterans of war and rear consists.

In the present-day situation the significance of the military-patriotic upbringing of Soviet people is growing, and much good has been done during the preparation for the 40th anniversary of the victory. Nor must this work be relaxed after the anniversary celebrations. It is very encouraging that this thought was expressed in the speeches of all veterans. Each of you sees his duty as being to help the party and people to bring up such a growing generation as might assume already in the next few years the concern for the country, its defense, economic might, and continue the relay-race of the older generation.

We would not like the lessons of the past war to pass into oblivion, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev continued. Loss of memory in politics is extremely dangerous. Among these lessons a most important one is that nobody is capable of overcoming the world's first state of workers and peasants. This was proved in May 1945, and it is all the more true now. True, we cannot fail to take into account the fact that certain influential forces in the West are gambling on the attainment of military superiority. Illusory as such reckoning may be, it does not become the less ominous for that reason. Such a course urges the world to the brink of nuclear catastrophe. However, we by no means consider war fatally inevitable; we are persistently conducting a peace-loving course. We shall continue to make use of any opportunity for constructive dialogue with the West and for improvement of the international situation. I would like to assure you that the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government will not reduce the security of our state in the slightest and will do all they can such that no one should violate the peaceful life of Soviet people.

I recall a remarkable meeting with working people in the capital's Proletarskiy Rayon. At the end of the interesting and frank conversation with Muscovites that took place on the street near a supermarket, I asked: What do you wish of the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government? What is your mandate? This is what I heard: Mikhail Sergeyevich, order must be strengthened everywhere, and the struggle for peace must be continued. That is how we shall act. We ask the veterans to support us in this. We have previously felt and feel today that this support will be energetic.

I would like to say once again that the party and state always remember and will remember the glorious deeds of the veterans. The recently adopted decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on awards to veterans of orders and medals in connection with the anniversary is a demonstration of respect for their merits. Constant care is also devoted to the satisfaction of needs connected with veterans' health, with their everyday life and housing. Recently a number of decisions have been adopted on forever preserving the memory of war heroes, on granting additional benefits and privileges for those who participated in the war and for families of deceased servicemen, and others. In general, the party is doing everything necessary for your lives to be always joyful, fruitful and happy, lives such as you deserve.

Concluding his speech, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev said that the thoughts and wishes expressed at the meeting would be communicated without fail to all members of the Soviet leadership, and that they would be studied at the party Central Committee, in the Government and other organs with the aim of implementing them.

He wished the veterans good health and successful work for the good of the socialist motherland.

Participants of the meeting assured the Central Committee that they will actively help the party in all its deeds and will greet the 27th CPSU Congress with new accomplishments.

MOSCOW GARRISON CHIEF ISSUES VICTORY PARADE ORDER

PM051721 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 4 May 85 Second Edition p 6

["Order of the Chief of the Moscow City Garrison No 120, 30 April 1985, Moscow City, on the 9 May 1985 Parade of Troops"]

[Text] 1. In commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the 1941-1945 Great Patriotic War, a parade of troops of the Moscow Garrison has been scheduled for 1000 hours on 9 May 1985 in Moscow's Red Square. The parade will be reviewed by USSR Minister of Defense Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov. I have been ordered to command the parade.

2. Formation and unit commanders are to send out parade marker personnel and turn out their troops for the parade in accordance with the approved detail at the set time. Summer parade uniform will be worn.

3. The commandant of the Moscow Kremlin, Lieutenant General S.S. Shornikov, will fire an artillery salute in accordance with my instructions.

4. I entrust overall leadership in terms of maintaining order in Red Square to the Commandant of Moscow City, Lieutenant General V.D. Serykh.

Army General P. Lushev, chief of the Moscow City Garrison and Commander of the Order of Lenin Moscow Military District.

MEETING HELD TO PREPARE FOR VICTORY DAY

LD032129 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1841 GMT 3 May 85

[Excerpts] On the fortieth anniversary of the great victory -- a report from the Kremlin Palace of Congresses is presented by our correspondent Yakov Smirnov:

[Smirnov] There are just 5 days left, comrades, before the shining holiday of the whole people, victory day. This anniversary year it will be marked by a parade of troops from the Moscow Garrison on Red Square. Today, by tradition, a solemn meeting of those taking part in it was held in the Kremlin Palace of Congresses on the eve of the festivities.

On behalf of the participants in the parade a speech was made at the meeting by Hero of the Soviet Union, Lieutenant General Danilov, head of the Political Department of the Military Political Academy named after Lenin.

[Begin Danilov recording] On the day of the fortieth anniversary of the great victory, we are going to carry out a formal military march in front of the mausoleum of the great Lenin. We will do everything to ensure that the military parade is a shining demonstration of the unshakable unity of the party and the people, of the combat might of the Soviet Armed Forces, and of the invincible power of our great motherland. This mission set by the party and government will be carried out with honor. The military parade devoted to the 40th anniversary of the great victory will be an excellent one. [applause] [end recording]

INTERVIEW ON SOVIET ATTITUDES TO LABOR

PM031818 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 May 85 Morning Edition p 3

[Interview with Dr of Philosophical Sciences V. Ivanov, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Sociological Research, conducted by IZVESTIYA correspondent A. Lepikhov, under the rubric "The Individual and Society": "Painting a Picture of the Working Person"]

[Text] The USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Sociological Research has finished processing the results of the all-union poll on the theme: "The Soviet Way of Life. The Conditions, Views, and Opinions of Soviet People." It is the first investigation on that scale. An IZVESTIYA correspondent asked Doctor of Philosophical Sciences V. Ivanov, director of the institute, to talk about some of its results.

[Lepikhov] Vilen Nikolayevich, as I understand it the investigation attempted to study how deeply the norms and values of the socialist way of life are established in the consciousness and govern the thinking and actions of our contemporaries -- members of the various social groups.

[Ivanov] The questionnaire was answered by 10,150 people over the age of 18. They live in 8 union republics; some 75 percent of those questioned work in the national economy; the rest are pensioners, students, and people involved in the education of children or in farming their personal plots. A special statistical analysis enables one to say that the answers we received reflect the views of the entire adult population of the Soviet Union on the key questions of social life.

[Lepikhov] The way of life, which was the subject of the study, is a broad concept incorporating production and labor activity, social and political activity, people's everyday life and leisure, and family life. All aspects are important, of course, but since we cannot cover the whole ground in a conversation, let us confine ourselves to one stratum of the sociological investigation -- labor activity. What part does it play in shaping people's life aspirations?

[Ivanov] With rare unanimity, 98 percent of the people in the poll regarded diligence and a conscientious attitude toward labor as very important factors in the achievement of success and prosperity in life. As well as diligence, many named such factors as health, honesty, principle, and education. There were those, of course, who regarded having money and "useful" acquaintances as very important to success and some people put their trust in luck and chance -- but it was only the minority who gave such answers.

[Lepikhov] The question immediately occurs to me: If 98 percent of the people regard conscientious labor as the most important factor in the achievement of prosperity, can one expect these people, then, to be good workers? I am sure I am not mistaken when I say, in anticipation of your reply, that in reality the picture is very different.

[Ivanov] Sure, and this is a very clear manifestation of the discrepancy between word and deed, between our consciousness and our real actions. Yes, we realize that we have to work well, but by no means can this awareness be relied upon to develop into corresponding action. An analysis of people's opinions and of their assessments of themselves has enabled scientists to divide working people into 3 groups in terms of the level of their labor activity.

A constant desire to work as well as possible, a high degree of self-discipline, and an enterprising and creative attitude toward the job are typical of 25-35 percent of the people in the poll who are employed in the national economy. They are, as a rule, highly skilled workers and specialists. By and large this is the way people of 40 and over work. It is interesting that there is really little relation between this attitude toward labor and the level of education: it varies within a very wide range -- from incomplete secondary to higher.

Approximately one-fifth of the working people are people of low labor activity. They display inertia, violate labor discipline, and often fail to meet plan targets.

The rest belong to the group with average labor activity characteristics. You don't have to be a sociologist or an economic leader to see that it is the mass of "average" people who hold the key to a sharp improvement of our social labor efficiency. To understand the thoughts and sentiments of these tens of millions of people, to help them overcome the desire, albeit conscientious, to work within well-defined limits, to stimulate initiative, and not only reveal to them the prospect of professional growth, but also make it a real prospect is to conclusively ensure conditions for switching the country's economy to an intensive development footing.

[Lepikhov] Why does the level of labor activity present such a striking contrast? What factors of its formation were confirmed or, perhaps, discovered as a result of the investigation?

[Ivanov] Labor activity, as the poll data show, primarily depends on how important and interesting a person finds his work, to what extent it corresponds to his knowledge and abilities and generally satisfies him. However, it must be added right away that all these factors operate at full power if the work is responsible and well paid and the profession itself has prestige in society's eyes.

Then, the people in the poll stated, a person puts more into the job, even where heavy physical labor is involved.

[Lepikhov] How do we working people in the intellectual sphere assess the nature of their duties?

[Ivanov] The proportion of highly skilled labor obviously increases in the course of scientific and technical progress. The tasks of managing production and putting scientific and technical achievements into practice become more complex. According to the poll data, 60 percent of technical engineering personnel are involved in complex, creative work demanding, as they say themselves, "considerable intellectual exertion." As for the rest, their labor, alas, does not require this. Basically it consists of uniform, monotonous operations, gathering and processing standard information. This kind of work, as we well know, can be done splendidly by modern computers. What does this show? I think it shows not only the broad potential for using modern organizational techniques and computers, but also our inability to effectively handle society's valuable asset -- its intellectual resources.

[Lepikhov] The results of the investigation show that for most Soviet people labor is an absolute value in itself. It is no accident that the desire for interesting labor is the main reason for changing one's place of work. This instills special urgency into the struggle against shortcomings in the organization and content of labor, which were also addressed in the sociological analysis. What, according to the scientists, are the main ones?

[Ivanov] First of all, the large amount of manual and unskilled labor that does not require high skills. There is undoubtedly a link between the skills and content of labor and discipline. Research carried out in the USSR's main industrial centers has shown that at enterprises that are more than 60 percent mechanized, losses of working time as a result of absenteeism are 4-8 times lower than at enterprises that are no more than 30-40 percent mechanized.

You don't have to be a specialists to grasp this simple idea: A person can only work well when he has everything he needs. Unfortunately, by no means all our enterprises are properly organized in this respect. Only one-fourth of the working people in the poll stated that they are adequately provided with technology, equipment, and materials; most (58.4 percent) called the level of provision satisfactory; one in six said it was not. The assessment of the introduction of front-ranking experience and the latest scientific and technical achievements into production was roughly the same.

There is something that is obviously worrying. In recent years there has been a clear desire on the part of some young people for uninteresting but "clean" clerical work and for work in the sphere of distribution of items of material value and consumer services. Of course, the change in the vocational orientation of young people is to a considerable extent due to the current accelerated development of the services sphere. However, it would be a mistake not to see it as a reflection of a negative trend when some people associate choice of profession with the possibility of earning money on the side.

[Lepikhov] The results of the investigation do show that when assessing people's attitudes to their work you should not restrict yourself to the rosy or black hues. The palette of life is much richer than that. Nonetheless, would it be possible to paint a general picture of the working person?

[Ivanov] When you put together the different and even, in some cases, contradictory opinions, you see above all a person for whom labor is a basic essential, you see a working person confronting major tasks, you see a politically mature individual who has a realistic appreciation of the complex socioeconomic processes taking place in our society. Something else becomes clear -- the tremendous reserves for increasing Soviet people's labor activity, improving production organization, and sharply improving its efficiency.

USSR UNION OF JOURNALISTS AWARDS 1984 PRIZES

LD042001 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 4 May 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] On the eve of Press Day, the secretariat of the board of the USSR Union of Journalists has awarded prizes for the best journalistic work in 1984. The winners of the creative competition include:

Kryukov, PRAVDA Rostov Oblast correspondent, for articles on a party and moral-ethical theme: Kulakov, responsible secretary of the KRASNAYA ZVEZDA editorial board, and Khokhlov, responsible secretary of the SELSKAYA ZHIZN editorial board, for sketches dedicated to the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War; Central Television commentators Galkin, Mironov, (Elin) for material on the construction of the Baykal-Amur Mainline.

Winners of the Vorovskiy Prize for the best works in international journalism include:

Anatoliy Gromyko, director of the Africa Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences, and Lomeyko, head of the Press Department of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for the book: "New Thinking in the Nuclear Age" [Novoye Myshleniye v Yadernyy Vek]; Yakovlev, director of the Institute of World Economics and International Relations of the USSR Academy of Sciences, for the book: "From Truman to Reagan."

Kurt Bachmann, member of the Presidium of the German Communist Party for articles exposing the designs of West German imperialism.

The secretariat of the board of the USSR Union of Journalists award the Mariya Ilyinichna Ulyanova Prizes for the best presentation of mass work in municipal, rayon, pooled and mass circulation newspapers. Prizes were also awarded for the best presentation of socialist competition and the military-political topic of "The Deeds of the Fathers as the Heritage of the Sons."

GOVERNMENTAL PERSONNEL CHANGES ANNOUNCED

PM021551 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOBRANIYE POSTANOVLENIY PRAVITELSTVA SSSR in Russian No 11, 1985 publishes on pages 198-199 two USSR Council of Ministers Resolutions dated 18 February 1985 appointing N.T. Sizov first deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Cinematography and releasing him from his duties as deputy chairman of the same committee, and releasing N.N. Inozemtsev from his duties as deputy chairman of the USSR Gosplan in connection with his retirement on pension; a resolution dated 21 February appointing V.Y. Filanovskiy-Zenkov first deputy minister of petroleum industry; and a resolution dated 27 February appointing V.I. Desyaterik deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Cinematography.

NEW GOSSTROY DEPUTY CHAIRMAN APPOINTED

PM021553 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOBRANIYE POSTANOVLENIY PRAVITELSTVA SSR in Russian No 10, 1985 publishes on page 180 a USSR Council of Ministers resolution dated 18 February 1985 appointing A.V. Chernyshev deputy chairman of the USSR Gosstroy.

SHCHERBITSKIY ADDRESSES REMEMBRANCE MEETING

AU030501 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 27 Apr 85 pp 2-3

[RATAU report on speech delivered by V.V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, at 26 April meeting with participants in the opening of the All-Union Remembrance Watch in Kiev -- capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] On 26 April, a meeting was held in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee headquarters with guests of honor of and participants in the ceremony of opening the All-Union Remembrance Watch [Vakhta Pamyati] in Kiev City.

On behalf of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo, Vladimir Vasilyevich Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary, cordially welcomed veterans of the Great Patriotic War, prominent military leaders, representatives of fraternal republics, and through them all participants in the All-Union Remembrance Watch.

Our meeting, he said, is taking place on the eve of a highly important historic event, a great red-letter day -- victory day. Many of us remember the unforgettable days of 1945 when the fatherland welcomed those alive with great joy and bitterly bewailed those who died.

Our peaceful times are saturated with important and outstanding events. Recently, a CPSU Central Committee plenum was held. It resolved to convene the routine 27th CPSU Congress. THE PLENUM'S DECISIONS AND THE PRINCIPLED DIRECTIVES, CONCLUSIONS, AND TASKS SET FORTH IN THE REPORT DELIVERED BY COMRADE GORBACHEV, CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE GENERAL SECRETARY, MET WITH UNANIMOUS APPROVAL ON THE PART OF OUR REPUBLIC'S COMMUNISTS AND WORKING PEOPLE, AND OF ALL SOVIET PEOPLE.

A meeting of top party figures and statesmen from Warsaw Pact member-countries, held recently in Warsaw, confirmed once again the unity and cohesion of the fraternal socialist countries.

Less than 2 weeks are left until the great red-letter day -- the 40th anniversary of the victory won in the Great Patriotic War, Comrade Shcherbitskiy pointed out. We consider it a great honor that precisely this year the opening of the Remembrance Watch is taking place in our republic's capital, the Hero City of Kiev. All events provided for by the program will undoubtedly be held in a dignified way and will serve well the cause of educating the Komsomols and youths in the glorious traditions of our party, the Leninist Komsomol, and all Soviet people.

The participants in the Remembrance Watch will meet many working people and youths -- in production, scientific, and students collectives, in military units and schools, and in various events. They will be able to see for themselves that the political situation in our republic, like all over the country, is good and businesslike.

THE UKRAINE'S PEOPLE BOUNDLESSLY TRUST THE PARTY, FULLY AND ENTIRELY SUPPORT ITS DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICY, AND WITH THEIR WORK STRIKE TO REDOUBLE OUR SOCIALIST HOMELAND'S POTENTIAL.

On these days, when preparations for the May Day and the victory anniversary are nearing completion, we particularly realize the greatness of the immortal act performed by our people under the guidance of the Leninist party during the formidable war years, and of the results of peaceful creation in the last 40 years.

On these days we appreciate in a new way and with great pride the mighty strength of the socialist system, and the inviolable friendship and internationalist brotherhood among our country's peoples. All peoples of the Soviet Union defended the homeland. Also 4.5 million sons and daughters of the Ukraine fought on the fronts of the Great Patriotic War. More than 2,000 of them won the title Hero of the Soviet Union; 32 won this title twice, and the famous pilot, I.N. Kozhedub, three times.

In the early months of the war, the Ukrainian Communist Party sent about 240,000 Communists to the front. On the republic's territory under a temporary occupation, the fascists were actively combated by 60 partisan units and about 2,000 partisan detachments and groups with more than 500,000 fighters belonging to 60 nations and ethnic groups of our country.

Acting under the guidance of the Communist Party (of the Bolsheviks) of the Ukraine, there were 22 underground obkoms, 200 gorkoms and raykoms, 13 other major leading party centers, as well as 13 underground oblast Komsomol committees, 264 city and rayon Komsomol committees, and more than 1,000 underground Komsomol organizations and groups.

THE UKRAINE'S WORKING PEOPLE, Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy said, WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER THE GLORIOUS FEAT PERFORMED BY THOSE WHO OFFERED THEIR LIVES IN THE DEFENSE OF OUR HOMELAND, IN SAVING ALL MANKIND FROM THE BROWN PLAGUE. While bowing our heads before their blessed memory, we pay tribute to all who won our great victory. The exploits of Soviet soldiers, partisans, and members of the underground movement have been perpetuated in literary and art works. More than 42,000 monuments and commemorative markers dedicated to the Great Patriotic War heroes and events have been built in the republic's cities and villages, and more than 800 state and people's museums of combat glory have been created. In addition, more than 1,800 museums of this kind exist in the republic's schools.

To disseminate the role of the party as the organizer of the Soviet people's victory and the immortal exploits performed by heroes, a great and useful work is being carried out by the Kiev and the Lvov branches of the Central Museum of V.I. Lenin, the Ukrainian State Museum of the History of the Great Patriotic War 1941-45 (in the 4 years, visited by nearly 6 million people), the Young Guards Museum in Krasnodon, and others.

Highly important for the military, patriotic, and internationalist education of the working people, and above all, the youth, are the monuments of eternal glory built to soldiers-liberators in many cities of the republic. In particular, this applies to the monument on Saur Hill, monuments built in honor of the heroes of the Mius Front in the Donbass, the Novyye Petrovtsy monument to the liberators of Kiev City, and a monument to partisans in Sumy Oblast. This also applies to the memorial complexes in Kharkov and Donetsk, and the memorial complex commemorating the victims of fascism at Kortelesy village in Volyn Oblast. The Hitlerites completely burned that village and shot about 3,000 old villagers, women, and children to death.

On the eve of the red-letter day, a memorial will be unveiled in honor of the feat performed by Soviet soldiers in the battle at the Bukrinskiy bridgehead during the forced Dnepr crossing, as well as a monument to the heroes of the Eltigenskiy landing operation in the Crimea, and a monument of eternal glory in Rovno City.

WE HIGHLY VALUE, Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy went on, THE GREAT AND HIGHLY IMPORTANT WORK PERFORMED BY THE VETERANS OF THE GREAT PATRIOTIC WAR IN EDUCATING YOUNG PEOPLE. Their meetings with young people leave an indelible mark on their consciiousness. Deserving every support is the work carried out by Komsomols and Young Pioneers to collect relics reflecting memorable events of the Great Patriotic War, as well as to sponsor war veterans and the families of fallen soldiers. In the last 3 years alone, the Komsomols and Young Pioneers ascertained 19,000 names of previously unknown heroes of the Great Patriotic War.

At the meeting account was given of what is being done by the republic's party, administrative, and Komsomol organizations to meet the daily needs of the participants in the war and of the families of those who fell. The war, Comrade Shcherbitskiy said, left a terrible mark both in the Ukraine and in other republics whose territories experienced the fascist occupation. Every sixth inhabitant of the republic died in the war. The tragic destiny of Khotyn was shared by more than 250 Ukrainian villages. Some 10 million people were left homeless. The republic's economic potential was virtually destroyed. Practically all coal and ore mines, machine-building, metallurgical, and other plants were ruined. Agriculture was thrown back a century. The kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and individual farms of the population were left with just a little more than six percent of the prewar number of cattle, and with less than two percent of the pigs.

IF, AS EARLY AS IN 1950, THE VOLUME OF INDUSTRIAL GROSS PRODUCTION EXCEEDED THE PREWAR LEVEL, AND TODAY HAS EXCEEDED IT 16.4 TIMES, AND IF AT PRESENTLY THE UKRAINE SUPPLIES MORE THAN 4 TIMES MORE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION THAN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY PRODUCED IN 1940, AND THE REPBULIC'S GROSS AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION HAS INCREASED, COMPARED WITH THE PREWAR PERIOD, 2.4 TIMES, THIS HAS BEEN ACHIEVED OWING TO THE SELFLESS TOIL OF THE SOVIET UKRAINE'S WORKERS, CLASS, KOLKHOZ PEASANTRY, AND INTELLIGENTSIA, OWING TO THE CONSTANT SOLICITUDE OF THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT, AND TO THE INVALUABLE ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT OF THE WORKING PEOPLE OF MOSCOW, LENINGRAD, AND ALL UNION REPUBLICS.

The Communists and all our people highly appreciate this, Comrade Shcherbitskiy pointed out. They are doing and will do their utmost to constantly strengthen and foster our brotherhood. The efforts of the republic's working people are now concentrated on fulfilling plans and socialist pledges for the current year and the 11th 5-Year Plan. In the final result, this will be the main accomplishment we will offer in honor of the 27th congress of our party.

All the prerequisites exist to reach the level targeted under the 5-year plan for indexes as important as the rate of raising the national income, the productivity of communal labor, the reduction of material consumption, the output of many production items, putting into operation fixed assets, housing construction, and some others. Also, most measures provided for by the 5-year social programs are being successfully accomplished. At the same time, a shortfall has been incurred in a number of items, primarily in those characterizing the effectiveness of production and the fulfillment of the food program. Of course, this is very disturbing.

AS FAR AS THE MAIN DIRECTIONS ARE CONCERNED ON WHICH WE CONCENTRATE OUR EFFORTS, Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy emphasized, THEY HAVE BEEN DETERMINED BY THE DECISIONS OF THE 26TH PARTY CONGRESS AND THE SUCCESSIVE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUMS. The point is, above all, to accelerate scientific-technical progress, to more widely apply new equipment, progressive technologies, and advanced experience in all national economic branches. Since the beginning of the current 5-year period, by taking comprehensive measures and primarily by applying scientific-technical achievements, the republic has reduced the consumption of materials in communal production by nearly R4 billion, and has saved the labor 3.4 million workers.

Topical for the republic are also problems concerning the technical reequipment of production, particularly in the leading branches -- ferrous metallurgy, the coal industry, and machine building. Many efforts are being made to intensify the policy of economy, to reduce outlays in production, and to improve the forms of labor and wage organization. Constant pains are being taken to increase production, to expand the choice and improve the qaulity of consumer goods. A great deal is being done to put on schedule capacities provided for under the plan.

Priority has been given to the agro-industrial complex. There are quite a few complications in this field. Weather conditions were very unfavorable for 6 consecutive years, and this resulted in a significant shortfall in the output of grain and other produce. There are also problems in stockbreeding, although in the last 2 years the planned tasks are being accomplished and a substantial increase has been achieved in the production and procurement of meat, milk, and other produce.

Concrete measures are being taken in the republic to raise the production of grain, to promote the stability of grain growing, to improve the utilization of land, to strengthen the feed basis in stockbreeding, to improve breeding practices, and to foster kolkhoz and sovkhoz economy.

The spring field operations are progressing well, although the sowing campaign, because of the weather conditions, has begun later. Early grain crops have already been sown, sugar beet sowing is nearing completion, and potato planting is in progress. Much attention is being paid to problems concerning sociocultural construction in the countryside. Of course, Komsomol organizations have been most actively engaged in all these enterprises.

In order to successfully cope with the outstanding tasks, we must improve the work effectiveness of party, administrative, trade union, and Komsomol bodies, and must perfect planning and management. All this must be done primarily by leading cadres.

A Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee plenum was held recently, Comrade Shcherbitskiy continued. Plenums were held in all obkoms and Kiev gorkoms. They examined the progress made in implementing the decisions of the 26th party congress and the successive CPSU Central Committee plenums concerning cadre policy and practical measures to implement the CPSU Central Committee directives on further improvements in the selection, distribution, and education of cadres.

Their outstanding idea was that our party's Central Committee quite correctly and opportunely brought forward the need to strengthen exactingness with regard to leading functionaries, and to evaluate them not in accordance with their statements and assurances, but in accordance with concrete deeds. Party organizations are insistently striving to constantly create an atmosphere in which any negative phenomena alien to our system would be impossible.

MUCH IMPORTANCE IS BEING ATTACHED TO THE POINT THAT EACH PARTY ORGANIZATION AND EACH LABOR COLLECTIVE MEET THE 27TH PARTY CONGRESS WITH GOOD RESULTS, THAT EACH PARTY MEMBER AND KOMSOMOL CONTRIBUTE HIS OR HER PERSONAL PART IN ENSURING A WORTHY WELCOME TO THE CONGRESS.

Much attention has been paid to further improvements in the style and methods of leadership.

In view of the present critical and complex international situation, party organizations are improving and coordinating better than previously educational and propaganda work in explaining the most important foreign political actions taken by our party and state, and in anticipating all kinds of ideological subversion by the class adversaries.

Party organizations keep in the center of their attention the ideological and class tempering of the working people, above all, youths, the fostering of political vigilance, and the cultivation of readiness to defend the homeland and the conquests of socialism with arms in hand. For this purpose, they broadly use measures taken on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of our great victory.

Each of us, Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy said, is expected to constantly contribute his or her part in the consolidation of the homeland's economic and defense potential. This is our duty before those fallen in the battles, before the living and coming generations.

Comrade V.V. Shcherbitskiy expressed the desire that the participants in the meeting successfully carry out all measures planned in connection with the Remembrance Watch, cordially congratulated on the forthcoming May and Victory Day festivities, and wished them good health and best successes in all their activities.

BRIEFS

SUPREME SOVIET AWARDS -- The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has awarded the Order of the Patriotic War, First Class, to 60 associations, enterprises and organizations, and individual branches of industry, agriculture, and transport. [Excerpt] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 5 May 85 LD]

ZHUKOV MEMORIAL PLAQUE UNVEILED -- A memorial plaque, which has perpetuated the memory of Georgiy Konstantinovich Zhukov, Four Times Hero of the Soviet Union and Marshal of the Soviet Union, was opened in Odessa today at the building of the headquarters of Odessa Red Banner Military District in a festive atmosphere. Marshal Zhukov, an outstanding military leader and wartime figure, commanded the forces of Odessa Military District from 1946 to 1948. Colonel General Yelagin, commander of Odessa Military District, who spoke at the meeting, told of the big contribution of Georgiy Konstantinovich Zhukov to the victory of the Soviet people over Hitlerite fascism. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 5 May 85 LD]

AZERBAIJAN PUBLISHING HOUSE AWARDED -- The collective of the Kommunist Publishing House affiliated with the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee has been presented with the Red Banner of the CPSU Central Committee Pravda Publishing House and the Central Committee of the Cultural Workers Trade Union for the Best Publication of PRAVDA during the first quarter of 1985. [Text] [Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 0105 GMT 5 May 85 GF]

ECONOMIST ARGUES NEED FOR WAGE DIFFERENTIALS

PM030830 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Apr 85 Morning Edition p 2

[Article by Doctor of Economic Sciences Professor Ye. Antosenkov, director of the Labor Scientific Research Institute, under the rubric "Improving the Economic Machinery": "Why Does Wage Leveling Persist?"]

[Text] The national economy faces a task of extraordinary importance: to elaborate specific, effective measures to rid the distribution mechanism of wage leveling, unearned income, and everything that contradicts our society's economic norms and moral ideals, and to ensure that the material situation of every worker and every collective depends directly on their work results.

This formulation of the question by the CPSU Central Committee April Plenum is fully in keeping with the demands of life and Soviet people's aspirations. This is shown in particular by a letter from Valentina Golubeva, an Ivanovo weaver, published in IZVESTIYA recently and the numerous reactions to it. Many letters contain the following question (and implicit reproach) to economists: What specific measures, ideas, and solutions can you propose to ensure that our entire system of planning, economic incentives, and economic responsibility creates a situation where "hard workers flourish while idlers understand that clock-watching at work will hit their pockets hard and that they must expect a worse rather than better life"?

I believe that this reproach is justified. The turn in economic science toward the formulation of new ideas to improve management methods is proceeding just as slowly as the reorganization of the system of planning and management in national economic sectors. However, science should be the pioneering, revolutionizing force, "the trailblazer of the future." High-flown words about the struggle for efficiency, of which many are spoken in our country, do not resolve anything by themselves. This is borne out by objective indicators.

Twice recently substantial measures were adopted in our country to reinforce labor discipline and reduce cadre turnover. Both times they bore good fruit, but each time the "flood" was followed by an "ebb." Thus, in 1980 cadre turnover in industry and construction declined by as much as it previously had during a 5-year period. However, as early as 1981-82 this process slowed abruptly. The result of the measures to enhance labor discipline in 1983 was that losses of working time in industry and construction because of absenteeism, idle time, and lateness fell by 18.5 percent in the RSFSR, 16.3 percent in Belorussia, 21.6 percent in Georgia, and 24.3 percent in Azerbaijan. As a consequence labor productivity increased substantially, but as early as 1984 the reduction in losses was much less substantial.

Why does this happen? Valentina Golubeva pointed out one of the reasons. It is the tendency to regard work to reinforce labor discipline as a temporary campaign rather than a permanent aspect of work. However, there are other reasons, too. Efforts to improve discipline in our country sometimes begin and end with measures confined to those who breach it. Analysis has shown that this never produces substantial and lasting results.

In order to reinforce labor discipline it is above all necessary to establish order in production. If the question is posed in this way it becomes clear that it no longer relates merely to material incentives. It is, for instance, perfectly obvious that it is connected with the validity of plans and responsibility for their fulfillment.

Let us suppose that the national economy needs new products on which progress in a number of sectors depends. How is the problem tackled?

The most convenient and usual method is to build new enterprises. This has been the practice even in the most recent years. We try to site the new plants where it suits the ministry, often without even making sure that there is enough manpower in these places. Subsequently construction comes under strain for this very reason, and the enterprises are not commissioned at the required time.

However, the main problem lies elsewhere. If an essential product cannot be obtained, a wave of imbalances runs through the economy. Naturally, at local level every economic leader tries to cope as best he can, by hook or by crook. The result is a mass of makeshift remedies rather than balanced management with an eye to the future. Objective reasons arise that blur the sharp contours of the plan and its deadlines. Strict personal responsibility for the production of goods disintegrates into a multitude of mutually justifying exceptions, adjustments, and corrections.

A number of economic experiments are now under way with the aim of increasing production efficiency by expanding the rights of enterprises (associations), ministries, and departments and simultaneously enhancing their responsibility for the end results of their work.

Labor collectives have been given extensive rights in the choice of forms and systems of labor remuneration and bonus allocation and in the use of wage funds for additional payments to reward professional skills. Regrettably, the collectives themselves still exercise these rights only very timidly and not always correctly. Skill payments, for instance, are used in many places in the old way, to establish specific wage levels regardless of workers' skill.

Nowadays we encounter the desire for leveling as a sociopsychological phenomenon both in planning and production management and in every individual workshop. This also represents a serious problem for research workers, who confront it every time the question of material incentives for the best workers and material penalties for the worst workers comes up.

Why are conditions possible where wages are not earned but "padded," where idlers are not only not held to account for the damage caused to society by their idleness but, on the contrary, are given bonuses along with everyone else, and where the pay differential between a good and a bad worker is virtually nonexistent? In short, why is wage leveling so persistent? Why does it so often serve as a cover for mismanagement? There are many reasons for this, and one of them lies in the very system of wage organization and planning, in the shortcomings of this system and of its application.

The wage rates in operation today were introduced more than 10 years ago. At that time they enhanced the role of the basic rate, which then accounted for 65-70 percent of workers' wages. But a decade has elapsed, and during this period the average monthly wages of industrial workers increased from R161 to R210. The proportion represented by the basic rate has fallen accordingly to 50-55 percent. As a result, bonsues and supplementary and additional payments have begun to play the role of the basic rate. However, at the same time they have begun to lose their main role as a means of appreciating a person's labor contribution. People have begun to be paid more than the basic rate regardless of what they have done and how. This is meant to be only a potential possibility, an entitlement to higher labor remuneration only given one very important condition, namely that the labor was actually "performed." The wage rates still have to be earned.

Raising the level of wage and salary rates and bringing them into line with the real level of efficiency of social production is an urgent necessity.

This can and must be done at enterprises and organizations in the material production sphere mainly through the mobilization of their internal resources. In other words, every collective must earn the means necessary to establish new wage and salary rates by improving labor and production organization and reducing the labor force.

Take the "13th month pay." It ostensibly serves specifically as an appreciation of the labor contribution: It is paid out at the end of the year according to the results of enterprises' work and ought seemingly to be distributed among the best workers according to their share in the overall results. However, as readers' letters indicate, in practice everywhere it has become a customary addition to the wages of any member of the collective. When it is withheld, this is regarded almost as an infringement of human rights. Such phenomena breed a mentality that is accurately noted in a contribution to IZVESTIYA by A. Gitalov, the famous leader of a team of machine operators, who writes: When a person knows that he will get "his bit" whether he has earned it or not, he does not care what is done to make ends meet in the economy.

The imbalance between monetary incomes and available goods is a familiar problem. It is not eternal, of course, but while it exists, people frequently prefer to receive certain goods and services in short supply today instead of monetary bonuses as a reward for highly productive labor. A study was carried out in our institute as a result of which it was proposed to make wider use of incentives such as the granting and liquidation of loans for cooperative and individual housing construction, free bonus vouchers for rest homes, boarding houses, tourist trips, more paid leave, and assistance in the acquisition of goods in short supply.

Where are the additional resources to finance such incentives to come from? There is a very substantial, but as yet underused source for this. The funds established by enterprises to finance sociocultural measures and housing construction are quickly growing in the country. In 1983 their size had almost doubled compared with 1970. However, for some reason the following view is still dominant everywhere: These resources must be distributed among all the collective's members. They are not to be used in return for labor but to ensure socially uniform conditions for everyone.

Naturally, this is what actually happens in many cases: Out of humanitarian considerations, enterprises allocate resources to any member of staff. However, in principle, is it fair (and this is not a rhetorical question -- results of studies carried out by our institute at enterprises bear this out) when production pacestters and those who work half-heartedly, workers with long service and much experience and those who have only just joined the plant's work force have the same access to many of the benefits from the plant or association social funds? These funds can and must be used as incentives and levers when it comes to increasing labor productivity, reinforcing discipline, and reducing cadre turnover.

I remember how economists once tackled the question of cadre turnover at the Altay Tractor Plant, where it was 25-27 percent. It must be said that the housing situation was very poor there. You would think that when people decide to have a family they put down roots and stay in one place, but families were forced to move out of hostels. People in general were leaving. The following dialogue took place between scientists and the plant's administration.

"Build cooperative housing for young families."

"How will they pay for it?"

"You pay half the initial payment for them and if after 8 years the employee is still at the enterprise, let the enterprise pay off the debt."

On this basis two 100-apartment blocks were built at Rubtsovsk. Over a few years cadre turnover at the plant fell to 16 percent.

Why was this experience not widely disseminated when it first emerged? Forty-year-old regulations and bans blocked its path. Formal obstacles of this kind still exist. It is high time to remove them. Proposals are now being elaborated relating to a mechanism of incentives in the expenditure of funds for socicultural measures and housing construction in national economic sectors.

In an article entitled "Lack of Responsibility" L. Kazakov, a team leader on the Baykal-Amur Railroad, cited the example of how a second span of a bridge was built with enthusiasm, to a high standard, and within a record time and how a couple of years later it was dismantled again...It was a mistake, you see. It cost the state R350,000. You can come across such mistakes in various places. They cost the country millions of rubles. Such absurdities exist even in the capital. There is, for instance, the famous "mystery of the Maryino grove": On a bare wall, row upon row of balconies that lead nowhere. A true symbol of bungling. But has anyone been severely punished for it? Hardly. Bad workmanship, which goes hand in hand with leveling, is often anonymous. At the same time it is by no means harmless. It is a terrible thing. It is a whole philosophy that corrupts many people, breeds idlers and drunkards who cover for each other, and, having mastered social mimicry to perfection, used highfalutin talk of "justice," and collective's opinion," and so forth in self-defense.

This is not the only reason why this is difficult to combat. It also becomes parasitic on certain features of the current economic machinery. The point is that the whole system of material incentives is insufficiently geared to the end product. The result is badly finished housing, uncomfortable footwear, and unfashionable clothes. What is meant by end result? It means not merely produced, but consumed goods. The discrepancy between the quality of the goods produced and modern technical, economic, aesthetic, and all other consumer demands and outright defective products amount essentially to the squandering of material resources and the wasting of our people's labor. This is how this issue was viewed at the CPSU Central Committee April Plenum.

Whole sectors of industry (the light industry for instance) still permit themselves the luxury of producing mountains of goods nobody needs while being late to produce goods in high demand. Whole sectors of the service industry are working as it suits them, not consumers. Everyone knows that the opening hours of most stores virtually coincide with the working hours of enterprises and institutions and that Sunday has become the closing day in trade (Sunday, which has always been a day of trading and markets.)

Do you want to buy bread in Moscow after 9 o'clock in the evening? You have to go to Gorkiy Street! Attempts to get stores to close later or to introduce flexible working hours are for some reason constantly being thwarted by a kind of "creeping inertia." In any case it is difficult to resolve this problem purely by administrative methods; because there still is a shortage of both trade outlets and the right kind of goods, trade simply dictates its will to the consumers. People will go shopping at any time and make excuses to leave any job in order to solve their problems. Is this not the objective basis for the emergence of indiscipline?

The intensification of the economy demands that everything hinge on the consumer. Essentially, it is a question of genuine, correctly understood financial autonomy, the basis of the entire system of management.

This is a key question.

It is connected with the need to improve the entire system of planning and commodity-money relations, to ensure the closest linkage between them, and to improve the prices system. In order to ensure the most efficient introduction of real financial autonomy in all economic management components it is now important to proceed not only "from above" -- from ministries to individual work places -- but also "from below," from work places to ministries. The most effective way to resolve this task is the introduction of team financial autonomy and the team contract not merely at the level of sections and shops but at the level of whole enterprises. Currently, as is known, an experiment to this effect is under way in Novosibirsk.

This solution will provide a firm economic basis for the establishment everywhere of the kind of understanding of the workers' conscience which was so opportunely discussed on the pages of IZVESTIYA.

BRIEFS

AZERBAIJAN OIL EXTRACTION -- The Red Bannered Salyany Oil and Gas Extraction Administration has been realizing technical measures to upgrade the volume of its production since the beginning of the year. As a result of the measures taken to date, the collective's oil output during the first 4 months of 1985 has been 4,000 tons more than estimated. The collective is currently drilling new wells in the southern sector of the Salyang oil fields. The planned depths of the walls will be over 5,000 feet. [Summary] [Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1600 GMT 2 May 85 GF]